

THE North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England	Oct. 21	Hankow	Nov. 28
San Francisco	Nov. 5	Yokohama	„ 23
Hongkong	„ 27	Nagasaki	„ 26
Tientsin	„ 27	Foochow	„ 29

Shanghai mail advices of 15th October were received in London on the 18th November.

BIRTH.

At Hankow, on the 23rd November, 1892, the wife of the Rev. H. SOWERBY, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

November 26th, at the Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., WILLIAM PIRIE, L.R.C.P. & S., Edin., &c. to JANIE HOOD, daughter of C. HAITLY BURN, Esq., Arbroath, Scotland.

November 26th, at the Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., the Rev. WILLIAM DEANS, Church of Scotland Mission, Ichang, to WILHELMINA, daughter of Henry SCOTT, Esq., Midgehope, Ettrick, Scotland.

At Tientsin, on the 18th of November, before B. Krause, Esq., H.I.G.M.'s Vice-Consul, and on the 19th November, in the Church of England, by the Rev. W. Brereton, HERTHA BIELFELD, of Shanghai, to MAJOR RICHTER, Royal Prussian Artillery, Professor of the Imperial Chinese Military School, Tientsin.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer.		WIND.		Hygrometer at 9 A.M.		Thermometer in shade.		Initials.
	9 A.M.	Therm.	Direction.	Force.	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Max.	Min.	
Nov 26	30.52	37.0	N.W.	3	35.5	32.5	48.5	31.0	B.C.
27	30.48	39.5	„	4	37.5	32.0	47.0	30.0	B.C.
28	30.39	39.0	„	3	38.0	36.0	52.0	33.0	B.C.
29	30.44	47.0	N.W.	2	46.5	41.5	56.0	36.0	B.C.
30	30.48	45.0	N.W.	3	43.0	39.0	50.0	33.0	B.C.
Dec 1	30.51	39.0	„	2	38.5	34.0	56.0	31.0	B.C.
2	30.52	44.5	N.W.	2	43.0	37.5	51.6	36.0	B.C.

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, FRIDAY, DEC. 2, 1892.

THE Inspector-General of Customs has taken a step for which many visitors to the Gorges will thank him, in publishing at the modest price of twenty-five cents a guide-book to the Upper Yangtze, in the shape of the yellow book just issued, entitled *Ichang to Chungking: 1890*. The perilous and exciting voyage here described, has been indeed described by other travellers, Mr. A. J. Little, Mr. Hosie, Mr. Parker, the Rev. V. C. Hart, and others, but their descriptions are imbedded in large volumes, while the voyage of Mr. Hobson, Mr. Lovatt, and their companions comes in a handy pamphlet, with a chart on a large scale, on which their course can readily be followed from day to day. It was a good idea in the first place to send men so well accustomed to China and the Chinese as Mr. Hobson and Mr. Lovatt to open the new port, and it is an equally good idea to let the world have the benefit of their observations *en route*.

To this is added an account with sketch map of Mr. von Rosthorn's walking tour from Ichang to Chungking. This sketch map, however, would have been more useful to the vast majority of readers of the book if the names of places on it had been given in English as well as Chinese.

In his despatch to the Inspector-General covering the journal of the voyage Mr. Hobson says:—

“I am fully sensible of the fact that the journal of the boat journey might with advantage have been amplified in many connexions; but you are aware that our primary object was to push on to Chungking, and to delay as little as possible *en route*. Furthermore, travelling as we did as officials and under escort resulted in our being denied opportunities for gleanings information which had we moved more slowly and as private individuals would have been easily obtainable. It affords me great pleasure to draw attention to Mr. von Rosthorn's admirable report and general notes. Regardless of much personal discomfort, he accomplished a most rapid trip, and at the same time availed himself of every possible opportunity for collecting information which can but be summed up as at once valuable and interesting.”

We do not suppose that the Inspector-General had any second thought in imposing on Mr. Hobson the limitations which the latter mentions; but they have resulted in making this journal much more handy and useful as a guide-book, than if it had been extended by the insertion of the information the travellers might have gained, and the observations and speculations in which they might have indulged. As it stands, it is a complete itinerary giving every day's course and adventures, a brief description of all the natural features of the scenery, of the way in which the numerous difficulties of the voyage were surmounted, and of the accidents, apparently inevitable to the voyage, which were encountered. Those who read the journal will understand the enthusiasm with which most of those who have seen it speak of the magnificence of the scenery of the Upper Yangtze; while the Lower Yangtze is tame in the extreme, there are not only the Gorges themselves to see between Ichang and Chungking, but there are the moving accidents to diversify only too often the upward toil. The towing is constantly breaking, and then

the boat is swept down by the current, a half day's work being sometimes lost in a few minutes; and this is no exaggeration, for we find that the first 60 miles took seven days to accomplish. The seamanship of the Chinese, when these accidents occur, is very highly commended: "The sensation caused by a line parting whilst the boat is surrounded by dangerous rocks and rendered almost unmanageable by a swirling current is far from a pleasant one, and one cannot too highly commend the coolness and expertness displayed by the crew in general and the pilot in particular under such trying circumstances. Without unseemly bustle and shouting, each man goes to his station, the orders of the pilot are quickly attended to, and every possible measure is taken to ensure the safety of the boat and those on board." These measures are not always successful, for our travellers passed two or three partial wrecks on their way up, but we note that in nearly every if not every case the cargo was saved.

But our purpose in mentioning this pamphlet at such length was rather to draw attention to the general remarks with which the journal concludes. Several times it is mentioned that the people of the towns passed on the way were very anxious to know when steamers were coming, and wanted them to come, and our travellers report that, though a detailed survey must be made, "a deep water channel, comparatively free of rocks and possessed of a strong current, appears to exist the whole way up, and generally in mid channel." There is no trouble about anchorages; the junks that go up carry no anchors; the largest ones moor in safety at night in sheltered nooks and coves. "Most of the large Szechuan salt-junks draw 5 feet and over, and our most experienced pilot, who had been 40 years on the upper river, gave it as his distinct opinion that steamers of similar draught ought to be able to reach Chungking for at least eleven months out of the twelve." It must be remembered that junks, having to be tracked from the shore, are obliged to keep near the shore, and therefore encounter more rocks and other dangers than steamers which could choose their course would have to do.

There is one other point to notice. An enormous extent of land is devoted to the poppy, "and it would almost appear that if the supply of Indian opium were cut short to-morrow, Szechuan alone would be able to provide for the wants of smokers over a considerable portion of the empire. One would fain believe that the bulk of the officials of China are unaware of the actual extent of the home production of the noxious drug, otherwise they would not inveigh against the importation of the foreign commodity.

"In employing the term 'noxious' it is desirable to state that we came across no real specimen of the debauched opium smoker so constantly

paraded for the sympathy of Europeans. The agricultural and boating population of Szechuan slave more like beasts of burden than human beings; their yellow and generally jaundiced complexions testify to their indulgence in the opium pipe, and yet nowhere in the world will a hardier, better tempered, and more decent lot of people be met with. Whether mild indulgence in opium does not tend to secure immunity from various types of malarial disorder, to which, owing to poor living and damp dwellings, they would be otherwise liable, is a nice point for the medical faculty to elucidate."

Summary of News.

The N.D.L. steamer *Darmstadt*, with German mail of 24th October, arrived here on the 29th ult.

The N.Y.K. str. *Kobe Maru*, with San Francisco dates ex China to the 5th ult., arrived here on the 29th ult.

The *Empress of Japan*, with Vancouver dates to the 14th ult., arrived here this morning.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe, by the P. & O. Co.'s str. *Sutlej*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

SUPPLIED THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY
EXCLUSIVELY TO THE "NORTH-CHINA
DAILY NEWS."

THE NEW GERMAN ARMY BILL.

London, 25th November.

General von Caprivi, the Chancellor of the German Empire, has introduced the Army Bill, with the statement that there was no fear of war in the near future, but that it was necessary to be prepared for the next war on two fronts.

THE CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK.

An extraordinary meeting of shareholders of the Chartered Mercantile Bank has approved of reconstruction.

THE CONFERENCE.

London, 28th November.

At the Monetary Conference the Austrian and German delegates declared that they were instructed that their Governments cannot agree to any modification of the existing monetary system. France, Holland, Spain, and Mexico are ready to vote in favour of the American proposals. Spain (?) and the United States, Italy, Roumania, and Greece have not voted, but reserved their opinion. Baron Rothschild proposes an agreement between the Powers for buying silver at a fixed price.

FALL OF M. LOUBET'S CABINET.

London, 30th November.

The French Ministry have resigned.

BARON ROTHSCHILD'S PROPOSAL.

Baron Rothschild's proposal at the Monetary Conference was on the whole favourably received in the City, but is disapproved of in America.

THE MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.

The Meeting of Parliament is fixed for the 31st of January.

Special Telegram to the North-China Daily News.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

FATAL COLLISION IN THE INLAND SEA.

* Kobe, 1st December, 0.15 p.m.

Early yesterday morning in the Mishima Nada the P. & O. steamer *Ravenna* and the Japanese man-of-war *Chishima Kan* were in collision; the latter was sunk and the former much damaged. Sixty lives are supposed to be lost. The *Ravenna* is now in Horiye Bay, and all her passengers have been transferred to the *Empress of Japan*.

[The centre of the Mishima Nada is about 90 miles west of Kobe.—Ed.]

* Delayed in transmission.

ARRIVAL OF THE KING AND QUEEN OF PORTUGAL AT MADRID.

Madrid, 11th November.

The King and Queen of Portugal have arrived at Madrid and were the objects of much demonstration. They will stay for fifteen days. After their departure a partial parliamentary crisis will be attempted.

THE PHILIPPINE BUDGET.

Of the Philippine Budget, it is only known for certain that the suppression of the coasting dues, and the re-establishment of the Mint in Manila, are probable. There are no alterations in the imposts.

THE BELGIAN PARLIAMENT.

The Belgian Parliament is against the suffrage. The people insisted on claiming it, and riots were frequent, the mob singing the "Marseillaise."

DYNAMITERS IN PARIS.

Fresh alarms have been created in Paris by the dynamiters.—*Manila papers*.

EXPLOSION OF A BOMB IN PARIS.

London, 9th November.

A bomb found in Paris has exploded, blowing four policemen to atoms, a fragment of the missile fatally wounding an Inspector of Police.

THE UNEMPLOYED IN LONDON.

There are daily meetings of the unemployed at Tower Hill at which increasingly menacing language is used. At the last meeting, it was resolved to assemble in Trafalgar Square every Saturday and Sunday with a view to compel the attention of the authorities to their present condition.

THE CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK.

11th November.

The final report of the Committee appointed by the shareholders to confer with the Directors of the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China shows that a large proportion of the proprietary support their scheme, and that subscriptions promised for new capital are satisfactory. Of the thirty thousand A shares which it was contemplated to issue, it is now proposed that the first issue shall be only fifteen thousand, the remainder to be reserved for a future issue as silver capital for India and the East generally. Enquiry shows that the reconstruction of the Bank is far preferable to liquidation.

THE BRITISH TO RETAIN UGANDA.

It is understood that the Government have decided to continue the occupation of Uganda.

12th November.

With reference to yesterday's telegram regarding the occupation of Uganda, this is now said to be premature.

MEETING OF THE UNEMPLOYED.

14th November.

Fifty thousand of the unemployed in London assembled on Sunday in Trafalgar Square, and quietly commemorated the

so-called "Bloody Sunday," otherwise the 13th November, 1887, when the military were called out to assist the police in clearing the streets around Trafalgar Square.

STEAMSHIP PASSENGERS AND THE SAILORS AND FIREMEN'S UNION.

15th November.

The Sailors' and Firemen's Union has issued a notice warning passengers against travelling in vessels that are manned by Lascars or Chinese crews and it points to the *Bokhara* and *Roumania* disasters.—*Singapore papers.*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK.

(Thermometers in the open air in a shaded situation in the English Settlement.)

		1892.		Rainfall.
		Fahr.	Thermometer.	
		Min.	Max.	in inches.
Nov.	25	35°.0	44°.0	.....
"	26	30°.0	41°.0	.....
"	27	28°.6	43°.5	.....
"	28	31°.0	47°.5	.....
"	29	34°.5	49°.0	.....
"	30	35°.5	46°.0	.....
Dec.	1	27°.8	43°.0	.....
		1891.		Rainfall.
		Min.	Max.	
Nov.	25	38°.0	47°.0	.....
"	26	29°.0	49°.0	.....
"	27	34°.0	49°.5	.....
"	28	36°.3	55°.0	.....
"	29	44°.0	49°.6	0.03
"	30	38°.0	53°.3	.....
Dec.	1	38°.4	61°.2	.....

Sicawei weather report, 25th November, 10 a.m.: The centre of the depression which passed Shanghai on the 23rd, travelled rapidly towards the E. reaching Tokio yesterday, where the barometer fell to 739 mm. (29.095 in). The barometer has continued to rise rapidly of Shanghai; it rose also rapidly yesterday at the stations of the S. coast. Strong N.E. monsoon probable on the S. coast; at Shanghai cold weather.—26th November, 10 a.m.: The barometer has continued to rise over the whole coast, principally in the South. Over the whole coast strong breezes prevailed yesterday, on the north coast from N.W., and on the south coast from N.E. This morning the barometer is still rising at Shanghai. Fine weather at Shanghai. Continuation of strong breezes over the S. coast, while the wind is likely to fall to-day over the N. coast.—Sunday, 27th November, 10 a.m.: High barometric pressures continue to prevail over China, while low pressures, whose centre is at sea over the Pacific, prevail over Japan. This morning the barometer is beginning to fall slightly at Shanghai. Continuation of fine weather at Shanghai. Moderate monsoon over the S. coast.—28th November, 10 a.m.: An area of high barometric pressure continues to stretch over China, whilst an area of low pressure having its centre over the Pacific is still over Japan. Nevertheless the barometer continues to fall gently over China, and to rise over Japan. At Shanghai continued fine weather probable with milder temperature; upon the S. coast continuation of the monsoon.—29th November, 10 a.m.—The high barometric pressure continued over China, and the low pressure over Japan. A slight upward movement was noticed yesterday at Tientsin, and to-day at Shanghai. However, this rise did not continue, and the barometer again began to fall gently over the whole coast of China. Continuation of fine weather probable at Shanghai, and moderate monsoon upon the coast.—30th November, 10 a.m.: The barometric high pressures continue to prevail over China, and the low pressures over Japan. The barometer, already high at Shanghai, began to rise still more. Fine but cold weather probable at Shanghai; upon the coast moderate monsoon.—1st December, 10 a.m.: The high barometric pressures still continue over China, and the low pressures over Japan, the centre of which has travelled

towards the N. At Shanghai this morning, the barometer seemed to have a tendency to fall gently. Fine but cold weather probable at Shanghai, and moderate monsoon upon the coast.

DISASTROUS COLLISION IN THE INLAND SEA. GREAT LOSS OF LIFE.

The new Japanese cruiser *Chishima Kan*, built in France, which left this on 22nd ultimo for Kobe direct, collided yesterday with the P. & O. steamer *Ravenna* in the Inland Sea. The cruiser was cut in two and sank, 85 of those on board being drowned. The *Ravenna* was badly damaged.

[The above was published by us yesterday as an Extra.]

H.E. Mr. C. Nissi, Japanese Minister to Russia, is a passenger by the *Natal* from Japan.

It is stated that Mr. R. J. Forrest, British Consul at Amoy, has resigned the service.

Mr. H. Edgar, Commissioner of Customs, who has just returned from leave, has been appointed to Tainan.

Admiral Fremantle, in the *Alacrity*, returned to Shanghai on Friday night last from the river ports.

Mr. Stevens, the new minister for Union Church, and family, arrived here on Friday last by the *Sutlej*.

There has been such a great change in the weather that ice has already been seen on the ponds and creeks.

According to telegrams from the north on Friday last, there was a gale at Tientsin and another at Chefoo. Ice had been seen in the Peiho, and there was only 6 feet of water on the Taku Bar. At Chefoo the steamers had been detained three days. At Newchwang there was much drift ice in the river.

According to a telegram from Tientsin on Tuesday afternoon the weather was still favourable there.

Newchwang traffic closed for the season on Friday. The *Kueiyang*, *Soochow*, and *Wenchow* arrived at Chefoo from that port on Friday last.

On one occasion last week, there was only three feet of water on Taku Bar. Ice had formed so thick in the Deep Hole that the tugboats were brought up all standing while towing lighters.

According to a telegram from Tientsin on Wednesday, the weather was very cold and there was little water on the Taku Bar.

M. Loubet's administration, which has just fallen, came into office in February last, and was the twenty-seventh administration since the establishment of the present Republic in September, 1870.

Seven members of the future Shanghai Cycling Club paraded on Saturday afternoon to escort Messrs. Allen and Sachleben, the trans-Asiatic cyclists, to the Point and back. Refreshments were provided at the Point House, and a very pleasant afternoon was spent by the wheelmen.

At Union Church on Sunday morning, the Rev. W. Muirhead preached a sermon, welcoming Mr. J. Stevens, the new pastor of Union Church. The selection was most appropriate, as Mr. Muirhead is the oldest missionary in North China, having come out to Shanghai in 1847, and he is at the same time one of the founders of Union Church, while Mr. Stevens is the most recent arrival. A reception by the congregation to the Rev. and Mrs. Stevens will be given at Astor Hall, on Friday, 2nd December, at 8.30 p.m.

The *Times of Ceylon* says that the Comptoir National d'Escompte is about to open a branch in Colombo.

An American telegram dated London 2nd November, says that Robert Grant,

Professor of Astrology in the University of Glasgow, aged 78, is dead.

Another great trans-Asiatic traveller has turned up in Bangkok, who claims to have just ridden on horseback from the eastern frontier of Russia to Peking, and thence across China, Tongking, Annam, and Siam. His name is Prince Constantine Wisemsky, and from Peking, where he had an audience of the Emperor, who decorated him with the order of the *Kinkam*, or Golden Merit, his route was by Tientsin, Nanking, Kujen in the Shantung province, Kiukiang (where he stayed in a temple), the Nijian Lake to Nanjan, Kiangsu, Canton, Hongkong, Pak-hoi, Taipei Fu, Hué in Annam, and Bassao on the Meikong.

There was a fire on Friday night last at Yangtseepoo, but apparently outside the limits of the Settlement.

Yesterday at about 5 p.m. there was a fire at Yangtseepoo near Jardine's Filature. As it was outside the limits, the firemen were not called out.

Just at 9 o'clock on Wednesday night, as the guests were proceeding to the Caledonian Ball, the fire-bells rang out the alarm of fire in No. 2 district. Those who were firemen hastily donned their uniforms and obeyed the summons, to find that their services were not required, as the fire only proceeded from a straw make-believe house and contents which some kind natives were burning for the benefit of their friends and relations who had passed over into the Unseen. Of course, this was very annoying to the firemen, but it could not be known at the time that there was no need of their services, and unless the Municipal Council forbid such celebrations till the police have been notified, the same thing will happen again.

We learn from a post card of the 20th ult., which reached us on Wednesday, that Lt. Otto Ehlers, the German traveller, has arrived at Nagasaki from Vladivostok, and intends to spend some months in Japan before starting on his expedition in the interior of New Guinea.

In the case in which a lighter was driven by the flood tide against the *Meinam* and one of the China Navigation Co.'s steamers, the *Soochow*, and which was left to the arbitration of Mr. Geo. Jamieson, H.M.'s Consul, the finding is that the lighter was entirely to blame, and the Shanghai Cargo-boat Co. has to bear the loss caused by the accident.

We are authoritatively informed that the agreement between the two Cargo-boat Companies has been renewed, and that the four large hopper barges, carrying over 500 tons each, built to carry away the mud, &c., dredged from the Woosung Bar, have been bought by the two Companies, and are now being converted into lighters by Messrs. S. C. Farnham & Co., Ltd.

We learn that there is a current superstition among the natives here that the great number of accidents to steamers sailing out of Shanghai within the last six months is due to the bad *fungshui* obtaining in the Settlement ever since the erection of the Cathedral Spire.

H.M.S. *Alacrity* left yesterday morning for Formosa, and H.M.S. *Swift* for Wenchow and the Southern ports.

The foreign divers have been removed from the wreck of the *Feima*, and salvage operations are being carried on by a host of native divers. The *Feima* has not sunk any more within the past few days, but at dead low water she is submerged five feet.

A party of foreign experts have gone out to the wreck of the *Peking* for a preliminary investigation of the chances of removing it.

The *Feiho*, which went out last week to put a lightkeeper on Shawsheishan, was unable to land him owing to bad weather. She returned to Shanghai, but went out again on Monday morning.

The Customs cruiser *Feiho* (Captain Nielsen) arrived here on Monday, with Mr. Forrester, second officer, and four native sailors belonging to the *El Dorado*, who

were picked up from a boat on Saturday morning at about eleven o'clock, off the Saddles. It appears that on Thursday the *El Dorado*, whilst on the voyage from Tientsin to this, broke her shaft, and having no sail to speak of was practically helpless, and began to drift out of the ordinary track of steamers. On Friday morning, Mr. Forrester and the four sailors put off in one of her boats, with the intention of reaching Gutzlaff, and telegraphing to Shanghai. They sailed in the boat about thirty miles in a S. by W. direction, and made the North Saddles. They landed in South Bay, and were accommodated by the light-house-keeper. Hearing that the *Feiho* was in the Side Saddle they decided to seek her. On the way they encountered the *Feiho*, and were taken on board. The *El Dorado* is drifting out to sea, with anchors down and some 120 fathoms of chain; her position approximately being N. by E. 30 miles from the North Saddles. The *Esang* has been despatched to her assistance.

News has reached Shanghai that the pilot schooner *Bonita*, No. 9, and the Japanese steamer *Chuyetsu Maru* had been in collision on Thursday night (24th), Gutzlaff bearing south. The sailors belonging to the pilot boat got on board the steamer and were brought on to Shanghai. Since then the *Bonita* has been seen floating about and a party has gone out to find her and if possible tow her in.

It appears that the pilot boat *Bonita* when last heard of had on board Captain Popp and two sailors, who would not be enough to manage her. With regard to the *Daniel Webster* she is considered a total loss.

The pilot boat *Bonita* was afloat and apparently at anchor on Tuesday morning some eight miles off Gutzlaff.

The *Hever* on Wednesday saw the pilot boat *Bonita*, which reported "all well on board."

According to a telegram received here on Friday night from Anping, the diving operations at the wreck of the *Bokhara* had been so successful, that up to the night of 18th instant treasure to the value of Tls. 65,000 had been recovered and sent away in H.M.S. *Pallas*. Salvage operations were proceeding satisfactorily.

News reached Shanghai on Thursday night (24th) that the pilot schooner *Daniel Webster* had sunk on the North Bank, and had been abandoned by her crew. She went ashore some time before the gale, but she did not fill and sink till afterwards. The *Daniel Webster* was built by Hall of Boston, Mass., in 1853-54, and shortly afterwards went round the Horn to San Francisco, coming across the Pacific early in the sixties. She was a thoroughly staunch, strong, boat, though never so fast as the *Siren*, and went safely in August, 1867, through the typhoon in which the steamer *Lightning* was dismantled and nearly wrecked.

The *Kweiyang* left Newchwang on 26th ult. The river was then full of ice of considerable thickness, making it difficult to steam through. The *Kweiyang* and *Chow-chowfoo* were the last two vessels to leave Newchwang this season. On the way down, the *Kweiyang* experienced northerly winds, snow and sleet to Shawsishan. The *Kweiyang* experienced strong westerly winds and fine weather. The *W. Cores de Vries* left Hankow on Saturday and had fine weather throughout. The *El Dorado* arrived here on Tuesday morning in tow of the *Fuhle*, the tugboat having taken her from the *Esang* on Monday. When the *Esang* went out to look for the *El Dorado*, she found her where the second officer left her on Saturday, as she had not drifted at all, her anchors holding her. The *Esang* took her in tow on Monday before 9 a.m. and left her off Tungsha. It was the tunnel shaft of the *El Dorado* which was broken.

The French gunboat *Inconstant* returned to Shanghai on Sunday from Saigon, having been recommissioned.

The Spanish man-of-war *Ulloa* left Shanghai on Saturday afternoon for Manila. She arrived here on 14th June while on her way back from Japan, where she had been with the *Regina Christina* to return the visit made by two Japanese men-of-war to Manila.

The *China*, with Shanghai dates to 4th instant, arrived at San Francisco on Thursday last (24th).

The P. & O. Co.'s extra steamer *Shanghai* left Singapore at 8 a.m. on Sunday for Hongkong and Shanghai.

Silk shipped per *Kobe Maru* from Shanghai on the 22nd Oct. and sent forward by the *City of Peking*, from Yokohama on the 30th idem, arrived at New York on the 23rd ult.

The R.M.S. *Empress of India* left Hongkong at noon on Wednesday and may be expected to arrive at Woosung about midnight to-day.

The s.s. *Malva* with the incoming English mail left Singapore at 5 p.m. on Tuesday 29th ult. for Hongkong and Shanghai.

There were no less than twenty vessels in Chefoo harbour on 26th ult., namely:—*Tamsui*, *Wuchang*, *Soochow*, *Wenchow*, *Satsuma Maru*, *Genkai Maru*, *Taksang*, *Yik-sang*, *Yuensang*, *Hacting*, *Fungshun*, *Chow-chowfoo*, *Kweiyang*, *Kwangchi*, R.C. *Ling-feng* and five sailing vessels.

We learn from Messrs. Bush Brothers, Newchwang, that 378 steamers, 49 sailing vessels, and 8 men-of-war have arrived since the opening of the port in the spring, showing a total of 435 vessels against 440 last year.

Owing to the condition of the Bar, on fewer than 13 steamers were detained at Woosung on Wednesday. Several could not get into the anchorage, and had to stop outside the red buoy, there not being sufficient berthage.

Fifteen vessels are in the vicinity of Woosung, two, the *Saikio Maru*, which began her voyage a week ago, and *Glen-faloch*, unable to get out, and the rest unable to get in.

The *Newchwang* lightship arrived at Chefoo on 25th November.

The *Kwongsang* passed the *Choyssang* off Dodd Island bound South, and the *Feiho* off Bonham.

The *Sutlej* reports: From Hongkong to Shanghai experienced very suspicious weather with a low glass for the time of year; evidently a typhoon travelling as ourselves to the eastward, but which evidently recurved at the Saddles or Hieshan Islands, glass then rising rapidly. From thence experienced strong monsoon gale, with rain squalls and overcast weather; anchored under Kinshan Island, through thick weather from 6 p.m. 24th November to 6 a.m. 25th November.

The following vessels arrived at Amoy from Newchwang between the 19th and 24th November:—*Anna Bertha*, *Amoy*, *Velox*, *Orient*, *Basuto*, and *Cape City*.

The silk which left Shanghai per *Empress of China* on 5th November arrived in New York on Wednesday.

We have to thank the Hon. Secretary of the Tientsin Race Club for a pamphlet containing a detailed account of the recent autumn meeting at Tientsin, which was a very successful one in every way.

We have received from the Agents of the Canadian Pacific Railway a very pretty little 20-page pamphlet, describing Banff and the Lakes in the Clouds. It is full of well-executed little reproductions of photographs of scenery readily attainable from Banff, and the cover is a novelty in the way of a cloud effect.

The Statistical Department issued yesterday, and has courteously sent us a copy, a yellow book containing an account of the journey from Ichang to Chungking of the Customs party detailed for duty at the latter port, in 1890. It contains also a report of Mr. von Rosthorn's overland journey between the same points in 1890,

and is illustrated with an elaborate chart of the boat voyage, and sketch map of the overland journey with tables, notes, itinerary, &c.

The absorption of the Queen Insurance Co. by the Royal has not prevented the former, whose agents here are Messrs. Frazer & Co. from issuing a useful hanging calendar for 1893. The five female figures which represent the five principal divisions of the world, are very prettily drawn and tinted. The total funds, we are told, are £8,000,000.

We have to thank the agents of the Queen (now merged in Royal) Insurance Company, Messrs. Frazer & Co., for a useful blotting-book with calendar for 1893, &c., and with striking coloured pictures of Windsor Castle and Holyrood Palace.

We have received from the Manager of the Shanghai Dispensary, No. 524, Foochow Road, a pamphlet entitled a *Guide to Health*, which has been published in Chinese by the managers with a view to diffusing a knowledge of western drugs and their properties. The title page is ornamented with reproductions of two tablets, one presented by the Grand Secretary Li and the other by a Chinese hospital, so that it would appear that during the short time the dispensary has been in existence it has succeeded in gaining some of the patronage at least of China's greatest official. Drawings of several medical instruments and one or two anatomical plates with descriptive notes precede the body of the work, which is mainly a catalogue of the various medicines the dispensary has for sale. Almost every ill to which human flesh is heir is enumerated and to every sufferer relief is guaranteed by the managers. Those bitten by mad dogs need not fly to Pasteur, as for 25 cents they are offered a certain preventative of hydrophobia, and those that go down to the sea in ships will be glad to learn that for 50 cents a large bottle and 30 cents a small one they can purchase complete immunity from seasickness.

We have to thank the *Japan Mail* for a reprint in pamphlet form of its account of the autumn meeting this year of the Nippon Race Club. We notice that the best times made were; for the half-mile, 57 secs. by the half-bred *Ikadzuchi*; for the three-quarters, 1 min. 30½ secs. by the half-bred *Sagres*; and for once round (one mile and 20 yards), 2 mins. 4 secs. by the half-bred *Ikadzuchi*; while *Sagres* did 1½ mile in 2 mins. 45 secs.

We hear that that plucky little pony *Petronel*, the winner at the late meeting of the Sycee Stakes, the Pagoda Cup, and the Stewards' Plate, has been sold for Tls. 500, to go to Amoy.

On Tuesday morning some 140 men belonging to H.M.S. *Severn*, headed by their life and drum band, had a march out, while a half company of U.S. sailors with two guns were also out for drill.

At the Mixed Court yesterday, a Pootung carpenter was charged with extorting money, and was sentenced to three weeks' imprisonment, and to repay the money extorted. A Hunan man was ordered 100 blows and to be again deported for having returned to Shanghai after having been sent away.

Mr. B. Ruttunjee writes as follows in his weekly share report, dated 24th ult.:—Transactions for the past week have been limited to a few stocks only, notably Bank of China and China Fire shares. There appears to be no desire to operate at the moment, and most of my quotations must be regarded as nominal. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares remain steady at 115 per cent. prem. without any business to record. Bank of China, Japan and the Straits, Ltd. Shares have again changed hands at Tls. 1.75, but close weak, as a sale at Tls. 1.50 has since been made public. Founders have again been sold at £20 stig. Nationals, £7.10s paid up, might be sold to Hongkong at 35 per cent. dis. Insurances.—*Marine*

—Straits found buyers at \$13, but other stocks under this heading are obtainable at quotations. *Fire*.—A fair number of Chinas have been sold locally at \$86 and ex. 73, and to Hongkong at \$87 and ex. 71½. Shipping.—Nothing doing. Cargo Boats.—Nothing doing. Wharves and Docks.—Hongkew Wharfs are enquired for at Tls. 275. In Docks, Farinams have changed hands at Tls. 105 and at Tls. 110, closing firm with buyers at the latter price. Mining.—Belmonts are offering at Tls. 5 per share. The feature of the week has been the advance in Imuris shares, which have changed hands at various rates up to \$3, the market closing with sellers at this quotation. Lands.—A small lot of Shanghai fetched Tls. 27.50, but more are obtainable at this figure. Hongkong have sellers at \$58. Miscellaneous.—Sales of Waterworks at Tls. 165, and Majors at par are made public; shares in the latter stock have been offering at Tls. 48.50 for some days past without producing buyers, therefore a sale reported at Tls. 50 is the more remarkable.

The *Fouchovo Echo* of the 19th ult. says:—The world will be surprised to hear, knowing the luxurious manner of living of Viceroy as a class, that H.E. T'an only expends 700 cash a day in food for himself and his family. The ordinary expenditure for the tables of the family of an ordinary Viceroy is 8,000 to 10,000 cash a day. H.E. T'an's economy may be discredited, but we are assured that it is a fact, and that he will not allow a cash more per diem to be spent than the sum mentioned.

The *Sutlej* brought us Hongkong papers to the 21st ult.—The French cruiser *Forfait* is coming out to relieve her sister ship the *Villars*.—Damage to the extent of about \$1,000 was done by a fire at the Hongkong Bank, Hongkong, on the 18th.—Sir C. C. Smith is said to persist in resigning the Governorship of the Straits Settlements.—A meeting of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce was held on the 19th, at which a resolution was passed with one dissentient, asking the home government to join the rest of the world in checking the fluctuations in silver.

We have received Hongkong papers to the 22nd ult.—At the Criminal Sessions, on the 18th, which turned out a maiden one, the Chief Justice said that some one ought to present him with a pair of white gloves, but no one came forward to do it.—The China Navigation Co. have at last accepted from the Chinese authorities a five years' lease of the wharf at Canton formerly leased by the company from Messrs. Russell & Co.—The Colonial Office at home has foisted a superfluous Captain Lethbridge on Hongkong as Superintendent of Victoria Gaol.—The shareholders in the Singapore Insurance Company have decided to wind it up, and the liquidation will be done by the Straits Insurance Co., if the proposed step is confirmed.

The *Darmstadt* brought us Hongkong papers to the 25th ult.—Nagotna has been again raided by dacoits. The Europeans escaped, but their houses were pillaged.—The Hongkong government's profit on subsidiary silver coins is disappearing, owing to the competition of the Canton mint.

We take the following notes from the *Daily Press* of the 26th ultimo:—From a Reuter's telegram published at Singapore, dated London, 17th November, it appears that the delegates from the Latin Union States intended to meet at Brussels in order to concert action prior to the meeting of the International Monetary Conference.—The Russian cruiser *Silatch*, towing the torpedo boats *Hogland* and *Nargo*, is expected at Singapore shortly, we learn from the *Free Press*, en route to Vladivostok. The Russian cruisers *Rosboyunik* and *Rynda* are on the way out to the Pacific, via Singapore. The *Dmitri Donskoi* will be relieved as flagship of the Russian Pacific Squadron by the ironclad *Admiral Kornilof*.

The Ocean S.S. Company's new steamer *Ulysses*, Captain Lape, arrived at Hongkong on the 24th ult. from Liverpool on her maiden voyage to the Orient, says the *Daily Press*. The vessel is one of four sister ships which the well-known line have just built, two of which have not yet left the hands of Messrs. Scott and Co. of Greenock. They are steamers of a type quite new to the "Blue-funnel" Company and are likely to do great service in the Eastern trade. The *Ulysses* is 3,000 tons register, 356 feet length over all, 42 feet 6 in. beam, 30 feet depth, and has a nominal horse power of 2,000. She is fitted with triple expansion engines and has a cargo carrying capacity of about 6,000 tons. Though essentially a cargo steamer she has excellent though limited cabin accommodation, and has proved herself on the run out to be speedy and comfortable. The officers speak in terms of high satisfaction of her performance, as she made the passage out from Liverpool to Singapore in 30 days and the run up from the latter port to Hongkong in 5 days 16 hours. This new departure of the company is likely to prove a successful and popular one, and we can only hope that the *Ulysses* will not be pursued by the fortune which has already overtaken two of the company's steamers christened with that name.

The *Natal* brought us Japan papers with dates from Yokohama to the 19th, and Kobe to the 21st ult.—The Cabinet generally is believed to be in favour of abolishing the import duty on raw cotton.—Major Fukushima is expected to reach Vladivostok about the end of April next.—Harmston's Circus has returned to Yokohama, to give a farewell series of performances there.—The so-called strike of coolies at Kobe was organised by a native stevedoring association which wanted to get the monopoly of the business, and succeeded by intimidation in stopping all business for a day or more. The Governor of Hiogo was appealed to, and outside coolies were obtained under police protection, but there was every element of a first-class tumult, *saké* being freely distributed by the native company to the coolies and jinrikisha-men.—A shorter railway route between Osaka and Tokio is being surveyed.

The *Kobe Maru* brought us Japan papers with dates from Yokohama to the 23rd, and Kobe the 24th ult.—At an amateur concert given in Yokohama on the 21st in aid of the Orphans protected by the sisters of the Convent of the Infant Jesus, the Public Hall was packed from end to end, and many had reluctantly to turn away for lack of standing room. Some \$826 were netted.—The Diet was to meet on Friday last.—It was rumoured that the Nippon Ginko had sold gold coin to the extent of \$6,000,000 at a profit of 15 per cent., or \$900,000.—Mr. H. J. Gorman, an old resident of Yokohama, died on the 20th of aneurism at the age of 44.—The steamer *Inagawa Maru* has been refitted, and is running again.—The Russian squadron consisting of the *Dmitri Donskoi*, *Vitiaz*, *Koréetz*, and *Bobre*, arrived at Yokohama from the north on the 20th ult.—It appears that Mr. Lenz, the bicyclist, is not coming to Shanghai, but will take steamer at Nagasaki for Hongkong.—Captain J. H. Pyne, late of the *Hiroshima Maru*, died at Kobe on the 23rd ult. aged 55.—In the arbitration case at Kobe between Messrs. H. C. Morf and Co. and the Ichinokawa Antimony Mine, Mr. Enslie awarded Messrs. Morf and Co. \$50,000.—The coolie strike at Kobe has collapsed, the strikers being only too glad to be allowed to work for Messrs. Nickel and Co.

Our Kobe correspondent's telegram, given above, differs slightly from, and gives a few more particulars than, that issued by us yesterday as an *extra*, and that received at the P. & O. agency here. The *Chishima* Kan was a new vessel, built at St. Nazaire, of 750 tons' displacement and 5,000 horse-

power. She was supposed to steam 21 knots. She was about 230 feet long and only 20 feet broad, everything in her being sacrificed to speed, and she was very crank, an unusually great part of her weight being above the water line. She was manned by a crew of 75, all told. As the passengers by the *Racenna* are coming on in the *Empress of Japan*, we should get full particulars of the collision to-day. The *Racenna* appears to be too badly damaged to be able to get back at once to port.

The *Hiogo News* says:—"We are to have another visitor. Says the *San Francisco Chronicle* of October 24th:—Yesterday the Bay City Wheelmen entertained F. G. Lenz, the round-the-world cyclist, with a trip to the university at Palo Alto, and from his expression the trip will stand as a red-letter day in the recollections of his journey around the globe. The start was made from the club-house at 8.30 o'clock, after a photograph had been made for illustration in Mr. Lenz's articles, and via the Bay road to Redwood City, where dinner was served. A run was made through the grounds of the university, the buildings were inspected, and the trip completed to the city about 5.30 p.m. About fifty members of the club and many unattached riders, under command of Captain Langton, acted as escort to the globe-girdler. Mr. Lenz was much impressed by the buildings of the university, and also with the general good character of the roads in California, and certainly he should, of the latter particularly, be competent to judge. He says that the Californian cyclists have about as good roads generally on which to make their trips as any which he has found in his journey across the continent. Mr. Lenz will be entertained at the California Hotel this evening by the club. He leaves for Japan on Tuesday. After striking inland from Yokohama he will probably not be heard from again for two or three months, but expects to experience no great difficulty in making his trip."—We understand that Mr. Lenz proposes to bicycle from Shanghai to India through the south of China and Burma, going from this either by Margary's route or through the Two Kuang provinces and Yunnan. But the information he will get when he reaches this will probably alter his opinions as to the practicability of this line for a bicycle.

We learn from the *Japan Mail* that the millions who will visit Chicago next year are not to be allowed the delight of seeing a real Chinese theatre. It says:—The enterprising Chinese who would fain have made arrangements to present to visitors at the World's Fair at Chicago an object lesson in Celestial histrionics, have met with a fatal rebuff. "Acting Secretary Spaulding," we read in an American exchange, "has declined to permit 200 Chinese actors to enter this country for the purpose of presenting Chinese plays in a theatre to be erected near the entrance of the World's Fair in Chicago. In doing so he says: "The enterprise described appears to be purely a commercial one, and has no official connection with the World's Columbian Exposition. The law would exclude such persons unless they present at the time of their landing certificates from the Chinese Government identifying them as persons entitled to enter the United States in accordance with the provisions of section 6 of the Act of May 6, 1882, as amended by the Act approved July 5, 1884."

The *Japan Mail* gives the following extracts from a translation just published in Tokio, of the new Code relative to Persons, etc.:

Here is a puzzler to begin with:

Art. 94. The possession of the status is a combination of facts which will be sufficient to prove the quality of parents and child from the time of birth between the husband and wife and one who asserts to be born of their marriage.

We should say that Japanese lawyers under this section would find considerable

difficulty in proving the required "quality." Again, in Art. 63, we learn that:—

The nullity of the marriage which has been contracted with the vicious consent obtained by coercion can only be demanded by one who has been coerced.

We should think that the Penal Code ought to provide a special section for the punishment of those abandoned persons who are guilty of a "vicious consent." Here follows an interesting proposition:—

Art. 110. Any person having the spouse cannot be adopted unless he jointly with such spouse.

Art. 31. A person who has the spouse cannot contract another marriage.

We advise the translator to put an advertisement in the papers requesting the "person having the spouse" to come forward and identify himself. As to the duty of mutual support, it is to be noted (Art. 27) that:—

As between brothers and sisters, they are only bound to give alimony to each other where they cannot live themselves by sickness or any other causes not attributable to them.

This reminds one of the farmer who put up on the gate of his field the peremptory notice, that "All persons are hereby forbidden to dump ashes in this field under the law or any other garbage." As to the "nationality of Japanese," by which we presume is meant Japanese citizenship, we learn (Art. 8) that:—

A child can elect nationality of Japanese:

4. Where born of a naturalised person and is a major.

This provision, we confess, seems to show too much partiality to the higher ranks of the military. This rule seems to include even females, as we see by Art. 106:—

Any person cannot adopt unless he or she is older than one who is to be adopted, and major.

The conscientiousness shown in mentioning both genders on every occasion is really delightful. For instance (Art. 12):—

A Japanese loses his or her nationality:

2. When he or she has * * * entered into the service of foreign army or navy, without, etc.

This almost exceeds the particularity of the choleric rural gentleman who posted an announcement, that "Any person whose ox or cow is found trespassing in my field will have his or her tail cut off as the case may be." In other cases, however, we find less care in distinguishing identities. Art. 105 tells us that:—

Any one whose quality of father and child has irrevocably been established before the time of the marriage of his or her father and mother has the rights of a legitimate child from the day of their marriage.

No easy "quality," we should think, to establish "irrevocably." The next passage will doubtless be somewhat obscure.

Art. 285:—Any person who demands a right to fall to a person whose existence is not certain on account of absence, must prove that the latter was alive, etc.

This "right to fall to" is not, as might be expected, a new belligerent right, but simply the right of becoming heir, as the neighbouring articles show.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council of the Straits Settlements on the 12th ult., the Governor Sir Cecil Smith explained that the late rising in Pahang was due to the visit to Singapore some two years or more ago of the unfortunate Turkish frigate *Ertogral*, "when there was an extraordinary idea circulated by some unscrupulous persons, by Arabs or others, throughout the state of Pahang, that this Turkish frigate was sent out to turn the infidels out of a Mahomedan country."

According to the *London and China Express*, twenty-two governments are represented at the International Monetary Conference—fourteen European, and those of the United States, India, Canada,

Mexico, Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, and Brazil.

Some of the oldest occupied buildings in England have now adopted the most recent scientific development of artificial illumination. We learn from the *Oxford Review* that Brasenose, Hertford, University, Trinity, Balliol, and Magdalen Colleges, and St. Mary's Hall, are now lit with the electric light.

The Berlin correspondent of the *London and China Express* writes:—The German Ambassador at Peking, Herr von Brandt, having engaged himself to the daughter of the American Consul-General at Corea, Miss Heard, intended to hold his wedding in August last at Chefoo. But a German law says that no German plenipotentiary is to be permitted to marry the native of another country when in office, the German interest being likely to suffer by such a matrimonial combination. Therefore Herr von Brandt is obliged to retire from office, and it is said that he will leave his residence next spring. That ending of the matter may result in great damage to the German interests in China, as Herr von Brandt's sojourn in China was already over twenty years, so that he was well versed in all Chinese matters. If the German Embassy is filled in future by a gentleman of small experience that may suffice to result in a loss of all previous success, and just now, as China seems to be more inclined than even before to open itself to the cultivation of the west, an experienced Ambassador at Peking is rather a necessity, as otherwise the commerce and industry of Germany are not likely to profit a bit by the future change in the Celestial Empire.

The *London and China Express* of 21st October says:—The Tea market has further favourably developed, though the trade shows reluctance to accept the rise in prices. It is evident that the export from China will prove smaller than at any time since the '50's, while the prospects are brightening, deliveries showing improvement. The range of prices current is still on the low standard. Indian Tea, though very firm, is still selling at reasonable rates. Ceylon Tea continues to rise in value, as the consumption goes on increasing, moreover prices on the whole are still ruling moderate.

We take these notes from the *Times of Ceylon*:—

A curious experience befell the Bombay Calcutta mail train on 3rd November. At a point between Satna and Manehpur, on the East Indian Railway, the engine surprised a couple of good-sized tiger cubs that had been amusing themselves on the line. The pair showed no alarm, but, just as if they knew the speed of the accelerated mail to a nicety, cantered along in front of the engine for two hundred yards or so, and then turned off to the right and left. It is right to add that the train was going up a steep incline at the point where the encounter occurred, so that the trial of pace was not a fair one.

The loss of so powerful and valuable an ironclad as the *Howe* when entering a well-known port like Ferrol is likely to create a storm of indignation at home. She was a twin-screw battleship of the first class, of 10,300 tons burthen, and 11,500 H.P., attached to the Channel Squadron. She is commanded by Captain Alex. P. Hastings, who is an *aide-de-camp* to the Queen. She was commissioned at Portsmouth on the 9th of May, 1890, and her loss to the British Navy will be a very severe one.

The following telegram from Europe appears in the Australian papers:—

Referring to the failure of German efforts at colonisation in Africa, Prince Bismarck says that the English are the only natural pioneer colonists, the Germans being most successful hitherto when settling under the British flag, as in Australia.

Prince Bismarck has a blunt way of telling the truth, and we hope those of his

countrymen who fancy they are about to eclipse the efforts of early English colonists by founding a new Germany in East Africa, in New Guinea, and in other insalubrious spots, will take his warning to heart. But if we remember rightly, Prince Bismarck, when Chancellor, sang quite another tune.

We understand that the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation have secured the lease of the building at Colombo now used as the O.B.C. premises with effect from the 1st of January next. The rent has been fixed after some negotiation at Rs.15,000 per annum, and the lease is to run for a period of 7 years, with liberty to renew it. The property, it will be remembered, was bought by Mr. de Souza for the sum of £12,000 sterling, and was under offer to the Chartered Bank. Indeed, negotiations were nearly complete between the local agent and the proprietor, who asked Rs.14,000 a year, the tenant to pay taxes and all repairs, conditions which the manager of the Chartered Bank would not agree to. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank have, however, agreed to pay Rs.15,000 a year, and will move their bank into the old and well-known premises with the new year.

Mr. Gladstone was paid £100 for his recent article on Home Rule in the *North American Review*, the article containing something under 4,600 words. The *London Times* had the whole article transmitted to it by cable, at a cost of about £230; and the *Daily News* and other morning papers paid sums varying from £100 to £200 for cabling the article.

In an American paper we read that Mrs. Baldwin, for twenty years a missionary in China, spoke at the Asbury Park Methodist Church, New York, on the 23rd Oct., before a large congregation, detailing the kind treatment she received at the hands of the Chinese and stating that she regarded the Chinese as superior in many respects to other foreigners to whom the United States accords free entrance to the land and citizenship. The speaker said that since she had been delivering lectures in this country she had received threatening letters, and not long ago a special policeman was detailed to guard her house to prevent a scheme for burning it down. This was in Christian America and in Brooklyn. She had never been in such danger in China. The Chinese, she said, were good labourers and could work longer and in places where others could not. Yet they were beaten, bruised and killed—all because they worked, while Irish and others got drunk and would not work as well. When this reference to the Irish was made considerable disturbance arose in the church and several people left. Continuing, Mrs. Baldwin said it made her sick to hear speeches such as were made during the Columbian celebration, in which America was spoken of as the land of the free. She thought it was not the case. During the war on the Chinese at Seattle, Cleveland and Bayard were appealed to seven times to protect the Chinese, but they only sent troops to protect the United States mails.—*Daily Press*.

At the door of Lloyd's, London, there is a big porter in a red coat, whose duty it is to see that unauthorised persons do not come into the room, and to shout out loud the contents of telegrams received. In a private letter received by the mail the following incident is told with reference to the loss of the *Bokhara*. "It is said that an underwriter at Lloyd's took a risk at 80 guineas. Just as he was in the act of signing the slip the red-coated man at the door, in the exercise of his duty, bawled out '*Bokhara*'—and to make the news impressive stopped. The underwriter, pen in hand, believing that the news would be 'has arrived,' snatched the slip from the broker, saying, 'I have it,' when Red-coat followed 'is totally lost!' Remainder left to your imagination, not reported to me."

Miscellaneous Articles.**THE CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK.***26th Nov.*

WE are glad to hear that the meeting of the shareholders in the Chartered Mercantile Bank, to receive the report of the committee of shareholders appointed at the last meeting to confer with the Directors as to the reconstruction of the Bank, passed off satisfactorily, the scheme suggested by the Directors and printed in our columns on Tuesday last being unanimously adopted. Prospectuses are to be issued in a few days. We understand that the manager of the bank here is prepared to accept applications for the 5 per cent. preference cumulative dividend shares, it being understood that the new scheme does not differ in any material point from that just referred to, which was issued by the Directors of the Bank on the 12th of October last. We have already pointed out the superiority of these preference shares as an investment, inasmuch as they share equally with the deferred shares in any profits that may be earned after five per cent. has been paid on both classes of shares. At almost every port in the East, including India, apprehensions have been expressed at the curtailment of facilities that would follow the total disappearance of the Chartered Mercantile Bank; and it is very evident that there is plenty of room for the reconstructed bank, and that its past history and the recognised ability and popularity of its staff have made its continued existence almost a necessity to commerce in the East. It is, of course, a great advantage to the bank that its shares both deferred and preferred, should be distributed as widely as may be among actual and possible constituents; while the new shareholders are coming into a most valuable goodwill and connection practically free of cost.

THE SPEECH OF THE GOVERNOR OF HONGKONG.*29th Nov.*

THE speech of H.E. the Governor of Hongkong, Sir William Robinson, K.C. M.G., on the re-assembling of the Legislative Council on the 16th instant, is, in its straightforward and business-like character, a strong contrast to those of some of his predecessors in the government of this impulsive colony. He begins by laying before the members of the Council and explaining "a state of affairs, so far as finance is concerned, which cannot be considered entirely satisfactory." It would hardly interest our readers to give all the details of the income and expenditure of the colony in 1892 presented by the Governor, but we find that the actual receipts are \$2,067,216, and the total expenditure, ordinary and extraordinary, \$2,365,000, leaving a deficit of \$297,784. On the other hand the ordinary revenue as distinct from re-

ceipts is \$1,997,216, and the ordinary expenditure \$1,782,000, showing a surplus of \$215,216. But it has hitherto been the custom to pay the December charges for Establishments, and other expenditure incurred towards the close of the year, from the votes for the following year; so that, as the Governor remarks, "the position of the colony in regard to its finances has never in recent years been as correctly presented to honourable members as it might have been." This is now to be corrected, and thus the apparent surplus is reduced by \$100,000. The opium arrears, too, that have been collected are a casual receipt and not revenue, and when they are deducted, the estimated surplus is \$65,216.

The estimates for 1893 show:—

Revenue	\$1,906,396
Ordinary expenditure	\$1,899,611

Possible surplus\$ 6,785

In these circumstances the colony must effect a loan, or stop all extraordinary public works. Some of these will be directly, some only indirectly, remunerative, and if they are stopped, it will only add to their cost when they are taken up again, as they must be. They must not be stopped, and a loan must be effected. The Governor dismisses the proposals to raise the money by overdrafts from the Bank or by sale of Crown lands, and adds that the Secretary of State has sanctioned a loan of £200,000, to be raised by Inscribed Stock, and not by Debentures. Accordingly a Loan Ordinance will be brought in, and the estimate of ordinary expenditure given above includes the sum of \$40,000 for interest on the loan and other charges.

Coming to the possibilities of retrenchment, the Governor finds that the Civil Service is over officered, that salaries in the Clerical service are capable of reduction, and that the cost of the Police is extremely heavy. Under the last head considerable savings may be effected by extending the term of service which qualifies Indian and Chinese constables for pensions. In the Clerical service the Governor proposes to employ Portuguese and Chinese instead of Englishmen, by which ultimately a saving of between \$25,000 and \$30,000 a year will be effected. In the Civil Service a similar saving will be effected by the abolition and amalgamation of appointments, and reduction of salaries. Economies in the Police will save some \$15,000, making in all a prospective saving of at least \$65,000 a year.

Not only has the Colonial Office at home sent out a new Gaol Superintendent for whom Hongkong has not the least necessity, but it has also for some time been insisting on the colony's building a new gaol, at a cost of \$600,000. Sir William Robinson has pointed out that all the necessary alterations can be made to the existing gaol at a cost of only \$250,000; and he has succeeded in bringing the Secretary of State

over to his view, and when these alterations and additions are made, the question, we read, may be considered as finally settled. Sir William does not devote very much space to the general financial condition of the colony, but is not without hope for the future, a hope justly based on the unique geographical position of Hongkong, and the industrious character of its population. He also hopes that the International Monetary Conference "will decide on some sort of bimetalism, which will at all events give a fixity of value to silver coin;" and this is a little vague. Two questions of politics he touches; the question of preferential duties in favour of Chinese junks on the Canton River, which has been "satisfactorily settled—at least for the present;" and the question of the new Telegraph Convention, whose ratification Mr. O'Connor will do all that he possibly can to prevent. The importance of the Volunteer Force is pointed out; for "if it were to cease to exist it is possible that the imperial government might insist upon some pecuniary contribution in lieu of it;" and it is proposed, if 150 men have joined it in writing by the 31st of December next, to set it firmly on its legs by means of a specific grant of about \$10,000 for the initial cost, and \$13,000 for its annual maintenance. The appropriation this year for the Shanghai Volunteers, a very much larger body, is £1s. 7,000.

The Governor's account of the progress of education in Hongkong is decidedly satisfactory, but he owns that much remains to be done in respect to elementary education, there being some 20,000 children who attend no school whatever. "It is my desire," he says, "in the interests of the general community to encourage voluntary educational enterprise, and to extend in every direction the grant-in-aid system." We hope that before long our Municipal Council will bring forward a scheme for the elementary education of the thousands of Chinese children in the settlements, a step which would incidentally do a great deal to reconcile the native authorities to our continued control here. Sir William is able to congratulate the colony on the small amount of serious crime coming before the Courts. The tonnage returns, he tells the Council, are very satisfactory; and though the action of Australia, Canada, and the United States has banished for ever the golden days of emigration, the figures for the first ten months of 1892 are fully ten per cent. larger than for the same period last year. In recording the freedom of the colony this year from storms and pestilences, the Governor makes a very feeling allusion to the loss of the *Bokhara*. He mentions the probability that the Marine Lot holders and others interested in the Praya Reclamation will have to come upon the government for assistance, and that he is anxious to facilitate in every way the completion of the reclamation. He closes a thoroughly sensible speech by the

assurance that he does not propose to trouble members with much fresh legislation, and that he anticipates therefore a short and uneventful session. "In conclusion, gentlemen," he says, "I have only to express an earnest hope that there may be a revival of prosperity in the fortunes of the colony during the year 1893,"—a hope in which the Governor may be assured that Shanghai joins him most heartily,—"and that under any circumstances, you will assist me in endeavouring to promote, as far as possible, the welfare and happiness of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects in Hongkong."

MR. MICHIE ON COREA.

30th Nov.

In the October issue of that bulky periodical, *The Imperial and Asiatic Quarterly Review and Oriental and Colonial Record*, is a brilliant little article on Corea by Mr. A. Michie. We confess to having long ago given up Corea. It ought to be a very interesting country. It was closed to foreigners for centuries, and a country so jealously guarded ought to have been worth guarding, but when it was opened there was nothing in it. Its geographical position between China, Siberia, and Japan, makes it an important matter to any two of these Powers that the third shall not possess it; and there are obvious reasons why it would be inconvenient to Great Britain if Russia should acquire it; but to the rest of the world it seems to matter very little who rules it, nominally or actually. The mineral wealth that it was supposed at one time to contain it has so far succeeded in concealing from the prospectors who have been sent to discover its secrets. The people are poor, but content with their poverty; as Mr. Michie puts it: "They are reputed to be the most oppressed people on the face of the earth, and the exaction of officials is always given as their reason for idleness, it being quite useless for the common people to own the least property, personal or real. All that is doubtless true; and yet the back has so adjusted itself to the burden that the Coreans are entirely free from the outward signs of misery so common in other countries: no squalor meets the eye in village or city, and their only crying want, which most strangers would agree upon, is that of soap. The oppression of the nobles may have had the effect of checking the increase of population, a doubtful blessing perhaps, but yet a feature in national life which is not without its advantages. Recent estimates by the way have reduced the nominal population of the peninsula very considerably, some writers putting the figures as low as five millions."

Mr. Michie thinks that in the midst of the alien and conflicting forces operating in Corea the position of the government is not to be envied or admired. It seems to us, on the contrary, that the position of the Corean

government is not at all a bad one, and could only be bettered if all the Powers concerned were to agree in formally neutralising Corea. The government is virtually directed by the Chinese Resident, who has a much superior position to that of the representative of any other Power. He "is accorded in the royal presence privileges which none of his colleagues enjoy. They, for example, have to stop their sedans at the palace gate and walk a considerable distance to the audience hall, while the Chinese Resident's chair is carried through the gates and into the precincts. Many other like distinctions emphasise the fact that the Resident is quite another personage from the rest of the foreign representatives, no matter by what title they may be designated. In a word, he represents the Suzerain, exactly as the Resident at the Court of an Indian rajah does." The government of Corea, therefore, can do exactly as it likes in internal matters, and has the Chinese Resident to lean on in external affairs; while, if the latter should be overbearing, it has a number of foreign representatives to whom it can make its complaints, and who, having nothing whatever to do at Seoul, must be only too glad to have a grievance brought to them to amuse them. Mr. Michie notes the various forms that foreign representation takes. The United States, which has always had a very exaggerated idea of the importance of Corea, "on the conclusion of their Treaty at once accredited a Minister Plenipotentiary to the Royal Court. Russia sent a Consul-General and *Chargé d'Affaires*; France sent a Consul and *Commissaire*; Germany a Consul; Great Britain a Consul-General; Japan a Resident Minister and *Chargé d'Affaires*; China a 'Resident.' Of these various forms of representation of the Western Powers that of Great Britain happens to be the most, while that of the United States is the least, in harmony with the actual facts of the situation; the British representative being strictly subordinate to our Minister in Peking, while the American is himself a Minister of full rank, accredited to a Prince whose policy is controlled by a Suzerain to whom the Minister is not accredited. The positions of the others are nondescript and inconsistent." The contention of the United States, in accrediting a Minister Plenipotentiary to Corea, is, that in the treaties which Li Hung-chang persuaded Corea to make with foreign Powers, it is distinctly stated that Corea is an independent State, which it never has been. Mr. Michie mentions that this gratuitous statement, which cannot be called misleading as it ought not to have misled anybody, "was, however, qualified by a letter from the King to each of the treaty Powers, declaring that although he was independent enough to sign treaties, he remained in fact the vassal of China."

Corea is full of anomalies. It is independent enough to sign treaties,

and its foreign Customs are controlled and the officials appointed by Sir Robert Hart, the Inspector-General of Chinese Customs. Of the goods it imports, considerably more than half come from Great Britain and its dependencies, and there is not a single Englishman engaged in trade in the country. A great part of the import trade, and practically the whole of the export trade, are in the hands of the Japanese, who have had a settlement at Fusan for some three centuries; but Chinese merchants are improving their position in the country very rapidly, "and as to their superior commercial instincts they add remarkable popularity with the Corean people, they are not unlikely in the long run to gain the lion's share of the future foreign trade of Corea."

Mr. Michie thoroughly approves of China's conduct to Corea, and she has, he says, "throughout been the consistent friend and patron of the 'little country,' and not merely in the general sense of endowing it with her literature and civilisation, while Japan has been the equally consistent and ruthless enemy, notwithstanding that Japan stands indebted to Corea as the intermediate source of all her literature, art, and civilisation." Fortunately, Japan is checked from interfering in Corea by the possession of so large a share of the country's foreign trade; and there is no reason why the present condition of things, anomalous though it be, should not continue. Meanwhile, the foreign trade is improving the condition of the people by giving them fresh incentives for exertion. They are being taught by government teachers imported from abroad, and the spontaneous devotion of numerous missionaries. The result, says Mr. Michie, will be a compound; "for the missionaries mix political socialism largely with their religious instruction, and many of them, believe that a democratic form of government is the panacea for worldly ills. This new wine may intoxicate, or it may fortify, the Corean people, but it will not leave them as they are. Something will come out of all this social commotion. What? is the question."

THE CUSTOMS GAZETTE— JULY-SEPTEMBER, 1892—V.

1st Dec.

THE Dues and Duties collected at the three Corean ports during the third quarter of this year were only some two-thirds of the collection in the same quarter of 1891, and 1891 was below 1890. The comparative figures are:—

	1892.	1891.	1890.
Jenchuan	\$58,498	\$73,284	\$68,489
Fusan	21,386	37,799	50,270
Yuensan	4,446	12,241	13,826

Total \$84,330 \$123,324 \$132,585

The decline this year was under all of the three heads under which the Customs' revenue is collected, the comparative figures being:—

	1892.	1891.
Import Duty	\$59,199	\$84,207
Export	23,533	36,934
Tonnage dues	1,598	2,183

Total \$84,330 \$123,324

At Jenchuan then was no falling-off in the shipping entered and cleared, which amounted to 37,045 and 35,095 tons this year, against 33,241 and 33,316 tons respectively last year. In imports, there was a slight increase in grey shirtings and drills, with a falling-off in almost every other kind, especially lenos, lawns, Chinese nankeens, and Japanese piece-goods. English yarn—no Indian is taken—has steadily risen, the import being Pcs. 88 in 1889, 241 in 1890, 367 in 1891, and 468 in 1892. There was a decline in woollens and in Japan copper, but this was more than made up by a large increase in old brass metal. Foreign sundries were well maintained with the exception of Japanese matches, needles and kerosene oil; while grass-cloth rose from 12,949 to 33,245 pieces. In native sundries we notice that the import of rice was about twice as large as in 1891. In exports, there was a slight decline in beans and wheat, and a very large decline in rice, with a considerable improvement in cowhides. At the same time cow bones fell off very notably. The foreign population of Chemulpo and Seoul must have increased very considerably this year as 65 'other' foreigners, i.e., not Chinese or Japanese, came in during the quarter, and only 42 went out.

At Fusan also the decline was universal; and here even the tonnage entered and cleared was less than in 1891, the tables showing 44,415 and 44,737 tons against 46,303 and 47,243 tons respectively last year. The import of cottons and woollens showed a very marked falling off, the only exception being yarn, the comparative figures of which were:—

	1892.	1891.	1890.
English, piculs...	96	8	6
Indian	271	47	31
Japanese	63	19	8

In metals there was little change. In foreign sundries there was a general decline, particularly in matches, kerosene oil, tiles, and umbrellas. In native sundries there was a considerable increase in dried fish and rice, and a large falling-off in grass cloth. In exports there was a marked decline in yellow beans, cotton piece-goods, and rice; and an increase in dried fish, cowhides, seaweed, and wheat. The 'other' foreigners arriving from Japan and the ports numbered 19, while only 12 left during the quarter.

At Yuensan there was a slight improvement in the amount of tonnage dues collected, while import duty and export duty were largely below last year. The tonnage of vessels entered and cleared amounted to 20,326 and 20,378 tons against 21,059 and 21,355 tons respectively in the same quarter of 1891. In imports of all kinds, almost without exception, there was

a marked falling-off, most noticeable in grey shirtings, which fell from 51,078 pieces in 1889, 30,850 in 1890, and 20,871 in 1891, to 3,752 pieces this year. The demand for lawns, of which 14,820 pieces were imported in 1889, has come down to the vanishing point. Exports do not tell so bad a tale; for there was an actual advance in cow bones, cowhides, seaweed, and dried fish (provisions); but there was a great decline in dried fish (manure). 'Other' foreigners evidently find no attraction in Corea's northernmost port, for there were no arrivals in the quarter; but those who are there are contented, for there were no departures.

The movements of treasure between the Korean ports and China and Japan during the quarter were as under:—

	Import Silver.	Export Gold.	Silver.
Jenchuan	\$41,300	\$24,955	\$55,712
Fusan	58,730	57,578	nil
Yuensan	3,600	118,163	2,702
Total	\$103,630	\$200,696	\$58,414

There was therefore, as far as the Custom houses know, an export of gold to the value of \$200,696, and a net import of silver to the value of \$45,216.

THE EAGLE OF THE TSIENTANG RIVER.

2nd Dec.

ONLY the hardiest spirits can undertake travelling in China for its own sake. The roads, where there are any, are so bad, the inns so vile, and the curiosity of the people so importunate, that travelling for pleasure is almost impossible. A sense of duty will sustain those who are going to a particular place to work as evangelists; they came out to China expecting hardships. There is only one form of travelling in China that is always enjoyable, and that is the pottering about the creeks in the delta of the Yangtze, or up the river Min, in a houseboat. Globe-trotters conversant with all the comforts of a long purse can command have not disdained to commend the amenities of the Shanghai houseboat; and there is no doubt that the Shanghai lady, worn out with calling, and dinners and dances, and the Shanghai man, worn out with telegrams and recriminating correspondence and mischievous fluctuations in silver, never feel such a perfect sense of bliss, such temporary but pervading freedom from care, as when the word is at last given to the *laoda*, and the houseboat is pushed off from the jetty to be borne westward by the flood tide. But until Captain Moore re-discovered the eagle of the Tsientang river, better known as the Hangchow Bore, the seekers after rest in houseboats had little object in their wanderings unless they were sportsmen too. Now there is Haining to visit and the bore to see; and very well worth the visit they are.

We left Shanghai to go and see the last high bore on the 3rd of November at 10.30 p.m. Twice a day the bore comes in, but it is grandest at full

moon, and the next high bores will be on the 5th and 6th of this month. A strong flood was running up the river, with light airs from the north, as we cast off from the jetty, and we rapidly left behind us the bund with its electric lights. At about midnight we were picked up by a steam-launch towing another house-boat, and all night it hurried us along. It left us at daylight, to return to its work in Shanghai, but the light airs from the north continued, and with our sail up we soon left the other heavier houseboat out of sight. Towards 9 a.m. on the 4th of November we reached the suburbs of Kazé, and very amusing it was to see the rice merchants and their assistants standing in long rows in front of their hong, and calling out to the little country boats coming to market each with its five or six or more bags of rice; just as the *musmies* stand in front of the tea-houses at Shidzuoka and other towns, and invite the passengers in, as they pour out of the railway station. Our *laoda* had been told that there was not enough water to go direct, by way of Hazé, to Haining, and we went accordingly the roundabout way by the Grand Canal and Samien. At about 1.30 p.m. we passed the Three Pagodas, and travelling all night we moored just this side of the last bridge on the creek that ends at Haining at 8 a.m. on the 5th. It would be difficult to over-praise the beauty of the creeks after the Grand Canal is left. There are no towpaths generally, and the trees, clad—in November—in every shade of colour from green by yellow and orange to deep red, overhang the water, meeting sometimes overhead, so that the boat passes under arches of brilliant and ever-varying colour through which the November sun plays with a gentle radiance that doubles the beauty of the scene. Nor is one ever tired of admiring the perfect curves, the graceful lightness, of the old stone bridges, most of them covered with creepers. Justice has never been done to the perfection to which the old Chinese engineers, in this part of China at least, carried the art of bridge-building. We breakfasted quietly on the boat, and learning from the *laoda* that the bore would come in at 11, and that it was an hour's walk to the sea-wall, we started soon after breakfast. Both statements had the accuracy which we have learnt to expect in China; the bore was really due at 12, and it was only a walk of a quarter of an hour. We went to the top of the Pagoda, the basement of which is used as a warehouse by an adjoining paper-hong, and took in the scene of action. To the right and left, looking south, stretches the sea wall, a magnificent work of masonry, going seaward for some sixteen miles, where the masonry ends, an earthen dyke from this point continuing right round the Yangtze Cape to Woosung. In the distance opposite are ranges of hills, the other side of the river, which is at least two miles across, being

flat, apparently a mud bank. The river, dark-coloured and muddy, runs out below the wall, swiftly and perfectly smoothly; while on the half-bundling or shelf, which protects the wall itself, is a continuous line of large junks, protected from the inrush of the bore by a buttress of faggots and earth, built out from the wall, about a quarter of a mile to the eastward of the Pagoda. This buttress is the best spot from which to see the bore advancing. For nearly two hours we walked up and down the sea wall, or sat on the piles of hewn stones which are kept ready at intervals, and watched the men at work on it. At about a quarter to twelve we saw in the distance a wave approaching. On it came, a wall of water in front, preserving a perpendicular face, while boiling over and over within itself. In the centre of the wall it advanced in five or six great wedges, which never lost their shape as the bore came on, and which looked as if they had been cut out by a great knife. Behind these wedges, on the back of the bore, were a number of gigantic waves, breaking and forming again, the whole advancing with a speed that made it almost difficult to realise the impression it made. In a moment the half-bundling was covered, the junks were rocking to and fro, and what had just been a perfectly smooth river bed was a roaring, tumultuous sea, like the rapids below the falls at Niagara. What made it more impressive was that the air was perfectly calm; if there had been a wind blowing the tumult of the sea would not have been so striking. Far away in the distance we could just see the sails of some junks coming in; but nothing could live on the eagle itself. Those have not exaggerated who have said that the Hangchow bore is as grand and impressive a sight as the Falls of Niagara; unfortunately it is come and gone in two or three minutes, and to take it in properly would demand a stay of at least three days at Haining.

We walked a little way up the sea-wall, westward, and saw lying on the wall the iron buffalo, cast in the reign of Chien Lung (1736-1796), whose vigilance prevents the bore from leaping over the sea wall and flooding the country. On dark nights, we were assured, the buffalo rouses himself, and ravages the farmers' fields. He looks gentle enough in the daytime. We returned to our boat, and at 1.30 p.m. started back for Shanghai, our *laoda* taking the direct route by Hazé, just above which we moored for the night at 8 p.m. It was foggy on the morning of the 6th, and we did not land to walk up to the Hazé pagoda, which is on a little hill from which, in fine weather, there is a most beautiful view. At 6 a.m. we were under way, favoured by a light southerly wind. At 2.15 p.m. we were off Kashing, skirting its south-east suburbs. At 7.30 p.m. we passed Kazé again, and at 8 a.m. on the 7th we turned into the

Whangpu, the southerly wind still favouring us. At 1 p.m. we passed the Pagoda Creek, with the flood tide against us, and at 4 p.m. reached the jetty at Shanghai.

The bore the day after we were at Haining was much better than the one we saw, and those who go to see it should arrange to stay at least two days. It is so grand a sight that it would be well worth going to see, even if great difficulties had to be surmounted to get to it. While it is a natural phenomenon, it is due to human intervention, for it is without doubt due to the embankment of the north shore of the Hangchow Bay; and we cannot admire too much the engineering skill, the patience, and the energy of those who built this embankment and the great stone wall from which visitors now see the bore in such security.

Reviews.

THE ENGLISH MAIL PAPERS.

THE loss of the *Bokhara* occupies a large space in the home papers brought by the *Sutlej*. Fairly full particulars were telegraphed home from Hongkong, but these telegrams evidently gave the impression that her loss was directly due to the drowning-out of her fires, whereas she was already doomed when this happened, for it seems almost certain that the three big waves which effected this struck her when she was passing over the reef some miles to the north of Sand Island. The comments on her loss are not all informed by accurate knowledge. The *Graphic* says: "The vessel could steam fourteen knots an hour, an exceptional speed for a cargo-boat. The truth is that the fastest and strongest steamer that floats would be in imminent danger if caught by a cyclone in the Straits of Formosa." The *St. James's* has a paragraph which, if it were true, should very much raise the rates of insurance on coasting steamers:—

The course from Shanghai to Hongkong, in the navigation of which the *Bokhara* has been lost, is one of the most dangerous in that part of the world. It abounds with rocks and islands, which are inadequately lighted. The coast is rough and inhospitable, with powerful currents, and near to the island upon which the *Bokhara* lies wrecked there is a well-known jungle, swarming with tigers and other wild beasts. At this season of the year the China seas are visited by typhoons, and one occurring in the particular region where the *Bokhara* has been wrecked places a ship in certain jeopardy. Large numbers of coasting steamers are lost yearly. The Chinese junks go down in scores—incidents common to the coast, and attracting little more than passing notice. The Peninsular and Oriental commanders during the run down or up the coast, pass the night invariably on deck, even in the finest weather, so critical is the navigation and so strong are the currents. Another element of danger to a shipwrecked crew is in the piracy which still exists in Southern China.

The *London and China Express* says:—

There is, on the information at present before us, no reason to blame any one for the catastrophe; it seems to have come from forces too strong to be battled with. The calamity appears to have been due solely to the fact that the *Bokhara* could not battle with the waves, and was too close in shore to drift long without striking. The engine power which enabled Captain Kane to so brilliantly bring the *Calliope* out of Samoa harbour, and by the possession of which he was enabled to save his vessel and crew, was wanting when the critical time came on the *Bokhara*, by reason of her fires being extinguished.

The *Daily Graphic* (of 20th October) has a picture of the *Bokhara* in the typhoon of 1874, with some sketches of the Pescadores, and mentions that her loss "explains the proverb about the pitcher and the well."

The other topics of the week were the Cirencester Election, of which the Unionist journals write with much satisfaction; but it seems to have been the constantly recurring case of a constituency preferring a local candidate to a stranger. There has been a great deal of discussion about the decision of the London County Council to undertake itself the building of the artisans' dwellings in connection with the Blackwall Tunnel scheme; and the *Daily Telegraph* says: "If the School Board of London had gone in for erecting the schools themselves, there is every reason to suppose that in the result better buildings would have arisen than were considered good enough by the contractors; at all events, it would hardly have been possible to produce edifices worse than some of them." The *Times* and some of the other Unionist papers are very determined that we ought not to evacuate Uganda, but it is generally allowed that the expense of retaining it will be considerable, and the resulting benefits very doubtful. Mr. Beach, *alias* Major Henri Le Caron, has published his "Twenty-five Years in the Secret Service; The Recollections of a Spy," as to which the *Overland Mail* says:—

The *Times*, by the way, has never forgiven the Irish Nationalists the terrible lesson they gave it on the dangers of Doppingism, and loses no opportunity of letting fly at them. "Major Le Caron" the spy, has just published his reminiscences, which one would think that even strongly-prejudiced Unionists would deem it wise to season with many grains of salt, for it is manifestly impossible to decide when a man who confesses to an occupation involving lies and deceptions extending over a score of years is speaking candidly or exercising his profession. The review of the Major's book in the *Times* is as respectful to that gallant person's statements as if they were all to be taken as gospel truth. Possibly they are. But the *Times* exhausts the energy of language on the "late associates and paymasters of the Parliamentary party which has converted the Gladstonians to Home Rule," as witness the following:—

"From first to last his references to the patriots are penetrated with the most supreme contempt—a contempt which is all the more scathing because it is free from every breath of passion. Major Le Caron studied the whole genus as a naturalist studies some order of venomous reptiles. He seeks out the creature in its lurking-places, investigates its noxious ways, watches its foul habits, notes the garbage on which it batters, the hapless prey which it fascinates and devours, the poison it secretes, and the slime it exudes. He classifies it as dangerous, and he shows us how it may be scotched and killed. But he bears no personal malice against his enemies. They acted according to their noxious kind. He baffled and beat them and forced them to crawl out and show themselves in the light of day. He is proud of his success, and points out the large, and more deadly specimens in his collection with the quiet satisfaction of a connoisseur, but towards the very worst of the class his attitude is almost purely scientific. He acknowledges his loathing for them and his desire to restrict their ravages, but he shows no trace of any private grudge against the men whom he knows to be thirsting for his blood."

As an exercise in vituperation this is not bad in its way, but the *Times* will not win over many of the more moderate Liberals to the Unionist side by language of this violence and animosity.

The *Times* itself allows that Mr. Asquith's speech to the deputation that came to him to ask him to withdraw the police regulation prohibiting public meetings in Trafalgar Square, was remarkable for its practical tone and its freedom from sentimental twaddle; but it entirely objects to the County Council having control of the police in London, as long as London is the seat of government, and contains the Houses of

Parliament and the great public offices, "being as they are the exponents of the will of the whole nation." Some of the Unionist papers write very bitterly of Mr. Asquith's concession. *The Standard* says:—

The answer of the Home Secretary to the Deputation which waited on him yesterday with regard to the alleged right of meeting in Trafalgar Square is a remarkable exemplification of "letting I dare not wait upon I would." Mr. Asquith, it is true, once argued in favour of the right of the public to hold meetings in Trafalgar Square. But on that occasion he appeared exclusively as an advocate, and it should be understood that the views which it was then his duty to support are not those which he is now bound to enforce. The members of the Social Democratic Federation, *aut quocunque alio nomine vocatur*, may not take the same view as Mr. Asquith of what constitutes an abuse of the liberty now conceded to them. They will naturally regard the success of their Deputation to the Home Office as a victory over the friends of order, and they will be more than mortal if they do not celebrate their triumph in a manner to tax the patience of the British public rather heavily. However, the decision of the Home Office is no more than we had a right to expect. The Government are in the hands of a taskmaster who will brook no trifling with his mandates. They must accept the whole Radical programme on pain of ignominious dismissal; and this concession of Mr. Asquith is only the beginning of the demands which Mr. Gladstone will be called upon to satisfy.

The Daily Chronicle takes a very different view:—

Mr. Asquith may congratulate himself on having won the first popular success that has fallen to the lot of the Gladstone Government. It is enough to say of his reply to the deputation on Trafalgar Square that it was most deftly and forcibly argued, and that it supplies an almost ideal solution of the controversy. To close Trafalgar Square would have been impossible. It may suit the Tory Press to pretend to believe that the Government is prepared to disavow every one of the pledges on which its supporters sought election, and that coercion in London and Ireland is to be maintained at Downing Street as stiffly as it was denounced on the platform. But reasonable people will remember that the restoration of some rather primary liberties of the people was—in spite of Mr. Gladstone's rather awkward compliment to "our admirable police"—the first point in the Liberal programme. Moreover, the real renaissance of London Radicalism dates specially from "Bloody Sunday." With that day began the London working man's revived interest in politics, and to it more than to any other circumstance we owe the County Council elections and the return of twenty-five metropolitan Liberal Members. Mr. Asquith would, therefore, have damned his most promising career for ever if he had for one moment consented to rule the Home Office as Mr. Matthews consistently ruled it. He has therefore taken his own line, and taken it, we venture to say, in a spirit which nine Londoners out of ten will endorse as a singularly happy mixture of good sense and democratic feeling.

The *St. James's* is jubilant over the Cirencester election and sarcastic about what it calls "The Trafalgar-Square Shuffle." It says:—

The real fact is that Mr. Asquith, as a lawyer and a responsible Minister, is bound to endorse his predecessor's action; but, as one dependent on the advanced Radical vote, he is also bound to make a concession for which a section of his supporters have asked too loudly to be able to forego it. Therefore, in direct contradiction to his own reasoning and his own statement of the facts, he gives way; and hopes for the best. The naughty children of the Metropolitan Federated Radicalism and Democratic Socialism were shut out from the square for misbehaving; but the Home Secretary governs is going to let them in, and now they must be good, and play there very quietly, and not make a noise or talk too loud. It is possible that Mr. Asquith will not be disappointed, so far, at any rate, as the immediate future is concerned. Nobody really cares twopence about the right of meeting in

Trafalgar-square. The working men can go to Hyde Park if they want a genuine demonstration, which as a rule they do not, being better employed otherwise. The Trafalgar-square rowdyism—until the police began to get "nasty" and made it dangerous—was useful to keep an agitation simmering against a Tory Home Secretary, and particularly useful to "boom" the names of certain demagogues on the make. But there is another Home Secretary in office now, who is the more or less obedient servant of the Radical clubs, so there is nothing to be got by badgering him; and the leading demagogues, as we have said, have by this time "ranged themselves" into dress-coats, and comfortable positions, and social dignity, so Trafalgar-square is of no further use to them. But the truce will exist on sufferance, and only till the next time that some knot of men have something to gain by disturbing it. Meanwhile, here is another illustration of the lesson that Mr. Morley is teaching us in Ireland. A Radical Government which gets into power by the help of the law-opposing element in the community, can only enforce the law with reservations.

The Pall Mall, well illustrated as usual, says very little about politics, taking more interest in "In Town," and the Queen's Ostrich. It gives, as do some of the other papers, a number of most pointless stories, from "A.K.H.B.'s" second volume of reminiscences. There is something tolerable in this one:—

There was long ago a Divinity Hall, presided over by a most amiable and dignified Professor. On certain days the senior students opened the proceedings of the day with prayer. One morning a raw youth from a remote region performed this duty, and it was a memorable occasion. None who were present can forget how the venerable Professor turned and gazed on the untutored lad, who prayed for him as follows:—"Lord, have mercy on our Professor, for he is weak and ignorant. Strengthen his feeble hands, confirm his tottering knees, and grant that he may go out and in before us like the he-goat before the flock."

"More Tennysonian" is accompanied by an excellent photograph of the poet by Mr. Hay Cameron.

Punch has an amusing cartoon in which Uganda is represented as a White Elephant which the present proprietor is offering to John Bull: "See here, Governor! He's a likely-looking animal,—but I can't manage him. If you won't take him, I must let him go!" John Bull looks very doubtful about him. As to the rest of his number, we can only echo Douglas Jerrold's aspiration that somebody would start a comic *Punch*.

The Economist has an excellent article on "Lord Tennyson's Funeral." We have only room for the opening and the close:—

We cannot admit that a scene like that presented by Westminster Abbey on Wednesday is in any way outside the purview of a journal like the *Economist*. On the contrary, we should contend that the possibility of its occurrence was directly dependent on conditions to which the material progress of the Kingdom is largely due. The almost universal interest taken in the funeral of Lord Tennyson, the presence of that crowd of representative men, including the second member of the Cabinet and the chief of the Opposition, the American *Chargé d'Affaires*, the leaders in science, literature, and art, together with the sorrow manifested by the educated classes, and the declarations of sympathy received from the entire world, all point to one of those epochs of high civilisation in which intellectual activity, profound order, and a consequent advance in all forms of prosperity conspire together to free a nation from pressing care. Virgil is only possible in an Augustan period, and the resemblance between Virgil and Lord Tennyson has impressed every observer, as it also is believed to have impressed himself.

Even when his inspiration is at its highest there is sense in his verse always, and clear thought, as of a man whose mind, however stirred, never grew turbid or overburdened. This high self-restraint in a man of such powers is exceedingly rare in literature, and springs doubtless from that quality of wis-

dom which his friends say was always in Lord Tennyson's talk, which appeared in the sustained dignity of his long life, and which detractors and publishers say was never wanting in his management of pecuniary affairs. Like Shakespeare, he saw no reason why, because he was poet, he should be a fool in the ordinary affairs of life, and like him he made a fortune. He never in fact pleaded his genius to excuse an aberration, but lived always as a good member of the community, whose duty to those around him was not confined to the exercise of his splendid gift. Southey did the same thing, but Southey had no more Tennyson's dignity than his powers. The latter was as independent, sometimes almost as savage as Byron, but unlike Byron, he regarded his powers not as properties but as trusts, and never misused them even when most conscious—and he was not an unconscious man at all—that they separated him from the majority of his kind. Much of his work will perish with the national mood which it embodied, but we do not doubt that much will live, and that he will be regarded, even centuries hence, as a figure whose rare powers and strong sense and lofty dignity of character fully became that great Victorian era throughout which, until its close approached, he had been the recognised great poet of his time.

The Saturday Review would not abolish the laureateship, but it writes with the greatest contempt of most of the candidates for the post. "Innocent people, because poets have been laureates, will infer that a laureate must be a poet." *The Saturday* believes it would pay to keep Uganda; it writes sympathetically on "Naval Grievances"; and it is still convinced that if the United States had only left silver alone—"better a finger aff than aye wagging"—the market would have reached a stable condition long ago. *The Spectator* has a fine article on Tennyson's Funeral, and in an article on "The Laureateship" says of Swinburne that "in *Atalanta in Calydon* he reached a level which placed him on an equality with all but the very greatest names in Literature." It makes a long quotation, too, from Mr. William Watson's magnificent ode to Tennyson in the *Illustrated London News* of 15th October. There is another good article on "The Genius of Tennyson."

The Pall Mall Gazette has grasped the intention of the new Telegraph Convention. It says:—

The new treaty between China and Russia regulating telegraphic communication between the two countries, the provisions of which are published by the *Times* this morning, is of some interest to our own merchants, for the practical effect of it will be that the telegraph rates between Europe and Eastern Asia will be maintained at the present very high rate, and that Russia alone will have cheap telegraphic communication with China. The land lines of both countries are to be joined at certain specified points in the Amour valley, and, while the tariff between Russia in Europe and China is to be five francs per word, between any other country and China it is to be eight francs and a half, and this rate is to last for ten years, unless both countries agree to an alteration. Thus the rate overland is the same as that by the cables for all except Russian messages, and trade between Europe and the far East, in place of being relieved to some extent of a heavy tax under which it has long groaned, will have it fixed without chance of relief for ten years. But, fortunately, this treaty has to be ratified by the Chinese Government, and this is a process which has frequently proved fatal to international agreements, and especially to those relating to telegraphs, not one of which has during the past ten years succeeded in obtaining ratification.

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Outports.

FOOCHOW NOTES.

(From the Foochow Daily Echo of 26th Nov.)

Owing to the frequency of suicides over the bridge, a society has been formed to raise a sufficient sum to maintain four boats to be constantly on the watch; two above the bridge and two below it. It has already been so well subscribed to that the scheme is to be carried into effect at once.

The *tipaos* of the different districts have been ordered by the authorities to see that all the opium dens are closed by 9 p.m., and warned that if any customers are found in them after that hour, they will be arrested and handed over to the magistrates at once. It is reported to the officials that a tenth part of the bad characters who come down from the country for no good purpose are concealed in these dens until quite late at night, when they issue forth and commit all sorts of atrocities.

The Salt Commissioner, under instructions from the Viceroy, has issued a proclamation informing the still numerous disbanded Hunan soldiers that they must return to their native country. Before the end of the present moon they must present themselves at his *yamen* when they will receive instructions about their departure. A transport will be in readiness to convey them to their own province, and all expenses will be met by the Government. Those who do not obey this order, but remain loafing about the country, will be arrested as vagabonds and severely punished. The Salt Commissioner, like his vice-regal superior, is not a man to be trifled with, and we may rely upon the order being carried out.

ICHANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

In my last I commented on the sweet serenity and peace prevailing at Ichang, notwithstanding the presence of upwards of two thousand students, to say nothing of their sisters and their cousins and their aunts, in the city. I also wondered if this was a lull before the greater blow. This wonder has now been partly dispelled, and evidence has been forthcoming that the fires of jealousy and murdering hate are still smouldering within the bosoms of the vast gathering of *literati* that are assembled within the confines of the city walls. This evidence was produced in a somewhat unexpected manner on the afternoon of the 20th. The China Merchants' steamer *Kiangtung* being expected to arrive on that date with the Literary Chancellor on board, the river bank, landing steps, and official junks were early bedecked with many-coloured flags and gorgeous awnings; this had the usual effect of collecting a crowd to stare open-mouthed into vacancy, and eventually squat down on their haunches and loaf around. Students came out of the city and joined them, awaiting their literary chief. Things were rather slow and a little excitement would be acceptable; the Customs pootoon was not more than fifty yards from them—what more natural than to scoff and jeer at the foreigners on duty there? The thing was tried and fulfilled expectations brilliantly; it helped along the time, and appeased and satisfied their national conceit and hate, for 500 of them to be taking it out of a couple of foreigners.

The coolies and Yangtze trackers among the crowd became bolder, and went down on the sands and attempted to pass along the twenty or thirty yards of staging that bridged the shallow water to the pootoon. The students, taking the best care of their own precious carcasses, cheered, egged them on, and encouraged encroachment; the foreigners resisted it.

This was afternoon. The mob increased, and catching the spirit that was alive, broke off in large sections and proceeded to violate the privacy of detached foreigners' houses, the doors of which their occupants barricaded. A party of about forty climbed the walls of the new Consulate and wandered about within its precincts. They did not lay violent hands on anybody, or anything, but appeared content to display their unbowed cheek, and apparently assert their right to go just where they pleased in their own country. This shows the need of a foreign settlement, with well established and clearly defined frontiers.

They forced their way, willy nilly, into the Customs compound: but a foreigner's dog got loose and cleared the place of a hundred of them with so much expedition that they nearly squeezed the life out of each other in their frantic efforts to escape through the door. Meantime the larger crowd waiting at the river steps were gradually becoming bolder as they increased in numbers, and the Customs officials, as they passed to and from the pootoon, were being hustled and spat upon by the rougher part of the mob assembled at the end of the staging, and being cheered on in this playful beastliness by the *literati*, at a safe distance away on the bank—always safe. The crowd increased until the sands and bank were black with them. The excitement advanced proportionately; until the courage of the united mob was sufficient to inspire the advanced guard to mud throwing. And it began, followed later by small stones, though nobody was hurt. The bluejackets from H.M.S. *Esk* who land for afternoon walks on Sundays, were recalled to their ship. Most of them went on board from a point some distance below; but the two last had to come through a galling fire of hoots, yells, mud, and saliva. This was somewhat hazardous on the part of the Chinamen, for the British blue is not a man to be spat on or mud-bespattered with impunity, and had the whole of the tars been together that mob would probably have been charged and dispersed with the big sticks that the bluejackets generally take on their walks with them. As it was, these two kept their heads wonderfully well, and although dangerously near it once or twice, did not bring up and face the crowd. The conduct of these men, then, and the behaviour of the whole crew of the gunboat during their stay here, has been admirable under very trying circumstances, and limited elbow room.

The Customs staff behaved with great patience, tact, and coolness, during a very trying four hours, and gave not the slightest excuse for any serious development of the insulting, riotous, spirit that was abroad amongst the population. Still the steamer did not arrive, and the excitement continued to increase, and must, I think, soon have taken another shape had not the darkness shut down, and effectually swallowed up all the pluck of the Chinamen, and dispersed them as the plague scatters the rich.

I have frequently noticed that unless a Chinese mob is in the very highest throes of excitement, one of three things will effect its instant dispersal; viz, darkness, a shower of rain, or a blank charge. There can be no doubt, however, that but for the intimidating influence of the presence of the gunboat, and the excellent behaviour of the Europeans in the Imperial Customs, there would have been another Ichang riot to chronicle. The event was of sufficient importance to show how easily the smouldering embers of foreign hate may be fanned into a flame, once a crowd is assembled; and how necessary is the presence of some standing menace to their nefarious designs, in the shape of a warship, in times of holiday and other excitements. Had there been a couple of that mob having the pluck of spiders, who would have stepped forward as leaders, they would as a body, only as a body, have been good for any-

thing. The pluck of a crowd is proverbial; there is nothing like noise and numbers to flog a coward up to striking point; moreover, their numbers were overwhelming. However it all missed, or hung fire. "All's well that ends well." We shall see.

Capt. Ravenhill has arrived and taken command of the *Esk*. Captain Burder proceeds to Shanghai en route to Hongkong to join H.M.S. *Caroline* immediately. One of the Customs indoor staff, has unfortunately, been bitten on the finger by a rabid dog, and leaves Shanghai for Saigon in the next French Mail. It is not known if other dogs have also been bitten by this animal, but if so times are likely to be lively in the near future, as wonks are superlatively numerous here. There are a party of ten ladies and one gentleman, missionaries, now here ashore on their way to Chungking and further, waiting the recovery of the one married lady among them, now ill in bed. With such a spirit abroad as they witnessed yesterday, truly they obey their Master's call with avidity and confidence.

Admiral Fremantle had been expected to pay a visit to this port, and it was thought might have been a passenger in the steamer *Changwo*, which was also expected on the 20th. It would have been a grand moment for him to arrive, for possibly, he might have had to run the gauntlet of mud, etc., with the rest, from the pootoon up the Customs steps. Then there would have been abject apologies from conceited and negligent Chinese officials, or, if the gallant Admiral is up to his reputation, the gunboat would have woke the echoes with her sixty-four pounders. Anyhow he would have seen for himself the spirit that animates the Chinese in the Yangtze valley, and out of it, in their dealings with foreigners. Unfortunately the steamers did not arrive until the following day—the *Kiangtung*, with the Chinese Solomon, early in the morning—thus preventing further crowds and excitement; the *Changwo* late in the evening with Consul Gardner and family from Hankow, but without the Admiral. I should have mentioned in my last that the only persons now concerned in the Chinese badger hunt at this place regarding their claims for the last riot, are the Presbyterians; the rest have succumbed to the Chinese offer.

22nd November.

JAPAN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The strike of the harbour coolies of which I wired advice on Friday last has proved a serious affair, and if it is true that up to the present no actual conflict or loss of life has resulted, it is equally true that it is due to the forbearance and patience shown by the foreign firm which has suffered most from the unlawful and aggressive action of the union men. So far as foreign residents are concerned the first intimation that something unusual was transpiring was given on Thursday, when bands of coolies in new clothes bearing the national flag as a badge, and with yellow turbans, were noticed on the streets. In Thursday evening's paper an advertisement apprised ship-owners and business men here that one Motooka had "organised a coolie service with the purpose of engaging in the shipment and landing of cargo." This individual professed to be "aware of the dissatisfaction caused by the carelessness and dishonesty of coolies in handling cargo," and that his object was "to guarantee shippers and consignees against vexatious losses from the causes referred to." It was added that the business would be conducted in the name of the Japan Stevedoring Company. There were no foreign vessels in harbour on the 17th, at least until late in the afternoon, when the *Beileidi* arrived from Hongkong and London. Early on Friday morning Messrs. C. T. Nickel and Co., the stevedores for the Ben and

other lines, attempted to put two large gangs of coolies on board, but immediately the boats hove in sight on their way from Higo (the firm had been unable to obtain the services of a single man in Kobe) launches and boats filled with union men bore down upon and boarded them, and finally sent boats and men back whence they came. No force was used beyond that necessary to intercept the boats and drive them away from the steamer's sides. Several of the union men clambered up the steamer's gangway and examined every nook and corner on deck to see if any non-strikers were hiding on board. It is fortunate perhaps that the two parties met before the men willing to work actually got on board. Had the men once started discharging the probability is a fight would have ensued, and as the union coolies were imbued with a good deal of Dutch courage, the results would have been serious. Nickel & Co.'s steam-tug on arriving at the Hatoba was boarded as though she were the property of the Japan Stevedoring Company and searched from stem to stern in quest of employees who had not deserted the foreign firm. It was soon recognised that it was futile to attempt to put workmen on the *Benedi* except by force, and although the case was brought to the notice of the police, the harbour (so far at least as approaching the *Benedi* was concerned) remained throughout the day under control of the union coolies. The coolies were all more or less under the influence of *sake*, and were armed with billets of wood. Fortunately, light rain fell during Friday, most of the day. On Saturday another attempt was made to put labourers on board, this time foreigners and Chinese, and eventually, after one unsuccessful effort, these reached the ship. All cargo lighters, etc., however, continued to be searched and even tally men and freight clerks were intercepted, and in one or two cases persuaded, or by threats compelled, to leave their intended work. Meanwhile Mr. Nickel reported the matter to his Consul, Mr. von Krenkei, Consul for Germany, and this official duly laid a complaint before the Governor of the *ken*, who promised necessary protection, and that a strong force of police should be told off on the morrow to preserve order. The action of the Consul was taken none too soon, as the temper of the strikers had been all too plainly shown, amongst other things, by an unprovoked attack on a foreigner near the Hatoba, an attack which would have had a regrettable ending but for the foreigner's self-control and the prompt aid afforded by an on-looker before the police reached the scene. Various reports were current on Saturday; at first it was said that a force of coolies were to be despatched to the ships—the *Guthrie* and *Glenfallach* had arrived in the meantime—under strong police guard, and later that the attempt to put them on board would not be made until the afternoon. A collision was regarded as certain, and every yellow-turbaned coolie was eyed carefully. Before noon some 150 coolies willing to accept work at the hands of the boycotted firm were gathered together in an empty building (formerly occupied by the firm) and there kept under police protection until 2 o'clock, by which time the street leading to the Hatoba had been effectually cleared of all union men. Then, guarded by a score of sworded police and accompanied by a small company of interested foreigners, the men were marched three abreast to the Hatoba, where they embarked in boats and were towed off to the *Guthrie*, policemen accompanying them. A slight cheer was raised by the men as they left, a cheer which the foreigners felt inclined to take up heartily in appreciation of the pluck shown by the coolies in undertaking the work in the face of all the threats and intimidation brought to bear, but wisely enough the inclination was suppressed lest the act should appear to give the affair

a national significance. The men were kept on board all night, and landed yesterday afternoon, the same precautions being taken as on the previous day. A few minor disturbances have occurred, but nothing very serious, and mobs of union coolies have had to be dispersed by the police more than once. This morning there were many more coolies available than were required, but it was still necessary to send police afloat with the men. A mass meeting of the union men was held at Sakamoto Mura last night, several hundred being present. One or two speeches were made, and it was very evident that though the company's temporary discomfiture was recognised, there is still a very angry and bitter feeling, and all danger is by no means over yet. Mr. Nickel has had to be guarded by police, and both he and his family have been compelled to remove to the Oriental Hotel for a time. The office is still under police protection. The prime movers in the Japan Stevedoring Company are two of Mr. Nickel's former employees, and it appears to me they have, or one of them has, taken advantage of the few grievances the coolies cherish, and worked upon the feeling of the men until they were willing to abandon a European employer who had afforded them steady employment for many years. To this, the promoter has judiciously added a dash of spurious patriotism and played upon the feelings of two or three capitalists until he has succeeded in obtaining the promise of the necessary money to gain control of the foreign stevedoring business. There is much talk of philanthropy and of a desire to benefit and raise the coolie, but acquaintance with the prime movers in the affair prevents one from attaching much weight to these considerations, and moreover the statements made have not stood the test of careful examination and comparison with actual facts as to wages paid the men in the past. The movement has been mainly directed against Nickel and Co., and only indirectly against the Kobe Lighterage and Drayage Company, because the leading spirits of the union happen to be men who have a grudge against the German firm. I feel sorry for the coolies who have been made their dupes, but it is impossible to feel any regret for a company which inaugurates its entrance upon actual business by endeavouring to absolutely ruin a competing firm. The coolies do not pretend to have asked for higher wages than they were receiving, yet suddenly, and without any warning, they desert a steady employer immediately they receive their wages. That the Japan Stevedoring Company commenced business on the 17th of the month, is explained by the fact that late on the 16th of the month Messrs. Nickel & Co., according to established custom, paid all their men the wages earned since the 1st instant. Whether there is yet to be a bad ending of this business has to be seen. There is a talk now of buying Nickel & Co. out, but it will probably result in nothing, and for my part, in view of what has transpired, I hope it will result in nothing.

21st November.

The dispute and turmoil over the Civil and Commercial Codes which were to have been enforced on the 1st of January next, and about which it will doubtless be remembered a Bill was passed by both Houses of the Diet last session in favour of postponing the date of enforcement have at last been set at rest, telegraphic advice having been received here this afternoon of the promulgation of the Bill of Postponement in this morning's *Official Gazette*. It is thought probable that the Government will bring in a Bill next session for the enforcement of certain sections of the Commercial Code. The decision at last reached by the government on the matter will tend to render the work of the

ensuing session less troublesome. Everything indicated that the Diet's will would be disregarded, and it is needless to say that had the spirit the government has shown since the Bill of Postponement was passed, been persisted in, there would have been some stormy scenes in the two Houses. The Diet may make mistakes, grievous mistakes, but His Majesty's advisers will commit incomparably greater mistakes if they counsel anything but the fullest respect for the actions and determinations of the Chambers. Just at the present time, when examples and precedents are being made, it is impossible to pay too much account to the letter as well as the spirit of the Constitution. And this, the Government has not shown on more than one occasion, but notably in regard to the Bill for the Postponement of the Codes, and in the promulgation of the Imperial Ordinance anent the new Game Laws. The issuing of the Game Laws as an Ordinance—before they were submitted to the Diet—is to be made, and rightly made, a test question when the Houses meet.

The coolie strike has practically subsided, and there is now nothing to remind one of the trouble but the discontent of disappointed men, and the rumours regarding the probable dissolution of the stevedoring company. Since writing per *Natal*, there have been various announcements, all of a nature more or less calculated to satisfy one of the discomfiture of the over-aggressive coolie union. The attempt to settle the matter by arbitration to which I think reference was made in the letter, signally failed, owing probably to inability to raise the money needed to buy the foreign stevedoring businesses out. On Tuesday, one of the capitalists—Mr. Fujino—sent word to Mr. Nickel, asking for an interview at a Japanese Hotel. The invitation was declined, but willingness to see him at Mr. Nickel's place of business was expressed. This resulted in a lengthy meeting, not between the monied individual and the boycotted foreigner, but between the boycotted foreigner and the monied man's attorney. It is sometimes very difficult to discover whom you are dealing with in Japan, and it was not until the conference was half over that Mr. Nickel and his clerk learnt that they were not addressing the principal, but a go-between. Nor was the object of the meeting much more gratifying to the foreigners. Though it was given out that the idea which prompted the request for an interview was to facilitate a purchase, it was eventually found that the immediate purpose was to obtain Mr. Nickel's consent to re-engage all the men who had deserted him. This, it was persuasively pointed out, was an inevitable preliminary to a proposal of purchase. It is scarcely necessary to say the request was refused, although willingness was expressed to take back the greater number. Mr. Fujino's representative was quite plaintive, urging the inconvenience to which the capitalist was subjected in consequence of the virtual failure of the strike. Mr. Fujino had pledged himself to supply funds to the extent of \$10,000 and unless some way of escape presented itself, the whole amount would have to be forthcoming, it was pointed out. Since the defeat of the union coolies in their organised efforts to prevent non-union men from going afloat, Mr. Fujino's house had been rather disagreeably besieged by the disaffected workers, and the rich man's solicitude for his own peace was reported to be scarcely less keen than for the safety of the foreigner whose resolution and firmness had defeated their designs. About the latest development in this affair has been the action of three ardent politicians of the *Kaishinto*, who detected or thought they detected an attempt at unlawful interference with the rights of individuals by men of the government party. It seems that Messrs. Morooka, Sakamoto and other leading spirits

in the Japan Stevedoring Company, are keen government partisans; and the Progressionists in town—three of them at least, and not influential men by any means—have consequently called on Mr. Nickel, and begged for full particulars of the trouble—their vernacular journals not having given sufficiently accurate and exhaustive accounts—with a view, if necessary, to bringing the matter up in the Diet. Admirable testimony this to the readiness of your modern Japanese politician to maintain unflinching watch upon the doings of the men who are supposed to pay insufficient respect to private and personal rights and privileges.

Captain Pyne, late in command of the N.Y.K. steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, and who has been suffering from an internal abscess for some time past, died here last evening at the house of a friend. Operations were performed, but without avail, the seat of the trouble being found to be beyond the surgeon's reach. The flags on the Company's steamers have been at half-mast to-day. The funeral takes place to-morrow afternoon.

Kobe, 24th November.

NEWCHWANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Natives predicted that on 3rd of 10th month (21st Nov.) there would be snow. They were very nearly right, for yesterday (22nd—or 4th of 10th month) we had a sort of misty rain which, during the night turned to snow, and this morning the ground is quite white. The wind is blowing very strongly from north-east and the temperature is anything but mild. If this weather lasts for a few days, we shall have ice in the river, but it is just as likely that there may be another change soon. Anyhow the steamers are anxious to get away. In port are only the steamers *Soochow*, *Kuei-yang* and *Chowchowfoo*, but it is a pity the *John Bazley* (Am. schr.) has not yet gone out, for she was ready for sea several days ago. The str. *Yüksang* left last evening and the str. *Taksang* this morning with the *Tamsui*. It is hardly likely that they crossed the Bar, as the north wind would reduce the water. Unless we have another steamer from Shanghai, our next mails can only reach us by courier from Tientsin, where letters should be forwarded, care of Customs Post—so long as steamers are despatched from Shanghai to Tientsin, so that they may reach this port by couriers, who have already commenced since 19th November as you may have seen by the circular headed: *Customs Courier Service, Winter 1892-93*. Unfortunately this fact is not much heeded in the south, where mails are often detained till the Chinkiang route is opened, in consequence of which we may not have news till January, whereas if the steamers from Shanghai to Tientsin are availed of till they cease running, we should have our letters and papers with only the extra delay of eight days by courier from Tientsin. The Norwegian barque *Aron* was sold at auction for Tls. 610, the cargo realising Tls. 210. The salvage of part cargo and gear was disposed of at about Tls. 1,100. There is not much chance of making anything further, as the weather is too cold and boisterous for operating on the Bar.

23rd November.

ROWLANDS' KALYDOR.—A soothing cooling, emollient milk for the skin. In prevents and removes freckles, tan, sunburn, redness and roughness of the skin, soothes and heals stings of insects, eczema, prickly heat, and all irritations, produces soft fair skin and a lovely delicate complexion. It is warranted free from any lead or mineral ingredients, and is perfectly harmless to the most delicate skin. Bottles 2s. 3d. and 4s. 6d. Ask for ROWLANDS' KALYDOR, of 20, Hatton Garden, London.

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Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTE.

(Specially translated for the North-China Herald.)

16th October.

CHARITABLE SUBSCRIPTIONS IN SHANSI.

The drought last spring and summer was so severe in the northern part of Shansi that the Governor found himself obliged to withdraw from the Treasury the large sum of Tls. 160,000, all of which was distributed in charity in those regions. At the same time the deficient crops in parts of the south, namely Fenchou, Pingyang and Hochou rendered it necessary to lend grain and postpone the collection of taxes. In the early part of July there were copious showers, and the autumn crops were replanted; but in the latter part of the month came many days of unceasing rain, which fell simply in torrents. The Huto and other rivers were all in flood at the same moment. Streams overflowed, embankments burst, fields and villages were inundated. From more than thirty districts in the south and centre of the province there came the same tale of woe. In some of them the number of flooded villages amounted to more than a hundred, while in some villages the buildings washed down were reckoned by hundreds, and the lives lost by scores. The deepest distress prevailed all around. The local authorities and other officials were set to work to relieve the sufferers. They distributed the corn in the public granaries, and where that was not enough, they imported it from elsewhere or gave money instead. They also assisted in the rebuilding of houses and in the burial of the dead. In most instances aid was also given towards the repairs of river banks. But there is one great embankment near Taiyuan Fu, which protects the neighbouring country against the water coming from the west. This has been washed away for a length of about two miles. It used to be maintained by the people; but in their present difficulties, its reconstruction is altogether beyond their means. The government therefore will rebuild it as soon as possible, and pay the labourers as a means of furnishing relief. In the north beyond the wall, where the rain arrived later, only thirty or forty per cent. of the crops could be re-sown; as the frost commences early there, it is doubtful what proportion even of these will be harvested. Though the giving of charity has been stopped for the moment, it will be necessary to provide for its distribution in the winter. Indeed, including all sorts of charitable calls on the public purse and the repayment of loans already incurred, there will be wanted at least as much as Tls. 200,000. In the meantime the land tax cannot be collected through half the province, and there are the sums due to the Central Government, which must nevertheless be forwarded. Under such circumstances there are no funds available for use. When a similar calamity occurred six years ago the want of pecuniary resources was met by opening subscription lists and rewarding the donors in accordance with the plan introduced into Shantung. In the present case the memorialist would suggest following the example set in Shuntien Fu and Chihli, and inviting subscriptions on the same terms throughout the province of Shansi. In case of there being any donations of the amount of Tls. 10,000 or more, a special report would be made to the Throne in each case. With regard to the remission or postponement of taxation, it has not yet been possible to ascertain sufficient particulars in each locality. But as soon as complete lists can be made out, the memorialist will again address the Throne.—Approved.

HORSES FOR THE EMPEROR.

The officer in charge of the government at Tarbagatai states that, this being a year in which it is his duty to send horses to the Emperor, he selected a number of horses from his herd and after subjecting them to a great deal of training and trying, he has picked out four geldings from the number. At the same time according to established precedent the Captain General of the Eleuth Tartars has furnished two horses as his tribute. Though the six horses do not match in colours, still they are all docile and well-broken. At the beginning of June, when the grass on the plains was long and plentiful, they were despatched to Peking under the charge of two officers and a party of soldiers. They will follow the route through Kobdo and Ulianghai, and they will be carefully tended and allowed to graze by the way, while corn and beans have also been provided for them. On their arrival at Peking they will be delivered to the Master of the Horse, that they may be exercised and got ready for His Majesty's use. The authorities at Kobdo, at Ulianghai and in the Chahar country have been notified in order that the local officials may take care of them by the way. The memorialist further has the honour to enclose a memorandum giving their colours, ages and the sizes of their hoofs, as a means by which they may be identified.

17th October.

No documents of interest.

18th October.

FLOODS IN THE CANTON PROVINCE.

A memorial presented by the Governor at Canton gives an account of the agricultural prospects and price of corn in the province under his jurisdiction during the intercalary sixth month (July and August last). The harvesting of the early crops was completed, rain fell frequently, and the late planting was undertaken. The price of rice also fell lightly. But in the last day or two of the month Lungch'uan Hsien in Huichou Fu was visited by terrific rains. The mountain torrents poured down into three low-lying sections, where the water rose to a height of ten feet on the level ground. The people were drowned in crowds, and thousands of buildings fell. Lower down stream is the neighbouring district of Changlo in Chiayingchou. Here the rivers united and the water rose higher than ever. The embankments close to the city on both sides gave way at the same moment. A gap was made in the city wall, and, as most of the houses inside are built of mud, more than half of them were washed down. The magistrate's *yamen* and the official buildings connected with it were all overwhelmed, but the prisoners were safely removed in time, without any of them escaping. In the town altogether sixteen persons were drowned. The state of things in Changlo seems even worse than in Lungch'uan. Both of them are poor districts, and the memorialist fears that with such a sudden calamity many of the people must have been driven away from their homes. He has appropriated Tls. 3,000 for their relief, and has telegraphed to the local Taotai to advance the money temporarily. Other funds have been provided from private sources. Officials will be sent to assist the local authorities in distributing the money. Every effort will be made to drain off the flood water and repair the embankments as soon as possible.

19th October.

TREASURY APPOINTMENT.

Fuk'un is appointed a Senior Grand Secretary and ordered to take charge of the Board of Revenue.

TRIBUTE RICE GIVEN TO SHANTUNG.

Fujun has requested permission to keep this year's tribute rice in Shantung instead of forwarding it to Peking. The autumn freshets in the Yellow River were unusually high this year, and as local rains at the same time swelled the tributary

streams, the channel of the great river could not contain all the water which was poured into it. The result was serious floods in Huimin and other districts. His Majesty being mindful of the sufferings of the people feels himself bound to accede to the Governor's request. The grain which is annually set apart for the local garrisons must be given to them as usual; but all the rest of the tribute rice together with the money which should have been spent in sending it to Peking, may be devoted to the relief of the sufferers in such proportions as each locality may have need of it.

A CLERK BEHEADED FOR FRAUD.

The Sub-prefect of Tokoto Ting recently reported to the Taotai at Kueihuach'eng that he had detected one of his treasury clerks in committing an act of gross fraud. The clerk at the same time was sent to the Taotai for trial. When examined he confessed that he had fabricated a list of people's names and received on their behalf two hundred piculs of charity millet. He had stored the corn in the house of one Ch'iao, but the latter had no knowledge of the unlawful circumstances in the case. Ch'iao was examined and gave similar testimony. It was not therefore proposed to do anything to him, though the grain was of course taken away and returned to a government storehouse. The matter was then referred to the Governor, who was requested to make a severe example of the guilty clerk. The Governor represents that there was severe distress caused by drought in the Kueihua country this year. Not only was corn issued from the local granaries, but application also was made to the Emperor and funds for relief of the poor were obtained from elsewhere. The memorialist felt that no punishment could be too severe for an official clerk who callously appropriated for his own benefit the food which would have supported some thousands of starving people; and unless condign punishment overtook him, it would be impossible to check similar malversation on the part of others. He therefore directed that the clerk, Ch'en Ch'un-shou, be taken bound to the public place of execution, and there straightway put to death. Decree:—Let the Board of Punishments take note.

Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At a Meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, the 22nd November, 1892, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Present:—Messrs. J. G. Purdon (Chairman), J. Graham, D. C. Jansen, W. McDonald, D. M. Moses, J. L. Scott, N. A. Siebs, and the Secretary.

The *Summons* calling the meeting is taken as read.

The *Minutes* of the last meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman and passed for publication.

Cash Statement for the past week is submitted, and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Return of Prisoners apprehended and Police daily reports for the past week are submitted.

Volunteers—Captain Commandant.—The following correspondence is ordered to be published:—

Shanghai Municipal Volunteer Corps,
Head Quarters,
Shanghai, 22nd November 1892.

SIR,—I have the honour to address you in regard to the appointment of a special officer to command A, B, C, & D Companies.

The want of one has been long felt, as it is impossible for the Officer Commanding the Corps to both direct all the arms and also to specially attend to the Infantry, either on Parade or at a field day, and in case of active

service the trouble would be still more marked. The custom has hitherto been to place the command of the Battalion whilst on parade in the hands of the Senior Infantry Officer present, but this takes him away from his own Company, where his presence is often very necessary, and moreover, as he is not constantly studying the command of a Battalion it is difficult for him to fulfil his temporary duties in a perfectly satisfactory manner. Also an officer of the rank suggested could take many matters connected with discipline and training off the shoulders of the Officer Commanding the Corps and from his more special knowledge attend to them better.

My idea is to have an officer elected by the four Companies to specially command them; that he should hold the title of "Captain Commandant," and rank above the Captains of the Companies electing him, but, for the purposes of Regulations VI and VII, with the Captains of the Light Horse, Artillery, and German Company, according to the date of his Commission. Should any modification of the above recommend itself to the other members of the Corps no doubt it could be arranged. There is no extra expense to the Council in carrying out this suggestion.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

CECIL HOLLIDAY,

Major,

Commanding S.M.V.C.

From the Officer Commanding the S.M.V.C.
To JOHN G. PURDON, Esq.,

Chairman,

The Shanghai Municipal Council.

Shanghai, 24th November, 1892.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 94/92 of the 22nd instant, and in reply I beg to say that the Council approve of your suggestion that the A. B. C. and D. Companies of the Volunteer Corps should elect an officer to specially command them.

This officer to hold the title of Captain Commandant, and to rank above the Captains of the Companies electing him, but for the purposes of Regulations 6 and 7 to rank with the Captains of the Light Horse, the Artillery, and the German Company according to the date of his Commission.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. G. PURDON,

Chairman.

Major CECIL HOLLIDAY,
Commanding S.M.V.C.

Volunteers—New Commissions.—The following letter is read and ordered to be published:—

Shanghai Municipal Volunteer Corps,
Head Quarters.

Shanghai, 22nd Nov., 1892.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that the German Company S.M.V.C. have elected Lieut. Wasserfall to be Captain, and 2nd Lieut. Haupt to be 1st Lieutenant; both these gentlemen are, in my opinion, fully qualified for their posts, and I therefore beg to recommend that Commissions be issued to them without further examination.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

CECIL HOLLIDAY,

Major,

Commanding S.M.V.C.

From the Officer Commanding the S.M.V.C.
To JOHN G. PURDON, Esq.,

Chairman,

The Shanghai Municipal Council.

Decided to approve of and confirm these elections, and to issue the Commissions as recommended.

Lighting.—The following letter from the New Shanghai Electric Co. is read, and ordered to be published:—

The New Shanghai Electric Company, Ltd.
Shanghai, 21st November, 1892.

SIR,—I beg to apply for permission to run another Incandescent Circuit, on the Company's present poles, from the Works along the Bund as far as Kiukiang Road.

Also to renew several poles at certain angles between the points mentioned, and permission

to extend the Company's present Incandescent Cables in the Canton Road as far as the German Club.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

CHAS. J. DUDGEON.

Acting Secretary.

The SECRETARY,

The Municipal Council, Shanghai.

Decided to grant the permission applied for, provided that the Company undertake to complete the work within six months to the satisfaction of the Municipal Engineer, and that the Board of Trade regulations are complied with.

Works Matters.—The following report by the Engineer, giving particulars of the works completed during October, and of those now in progress is submitted, and ordered to be published:—

Shanghai, 15th November, 1892.

The following works have been completed.—
BUILDINGS.—The gates, doors and windows at the Louza Station have been repaired.

The wooden fence to the Yangtze-poo Station has been completed.

The Municipal rickshaws, carts and harness have been over-hauled and repaired where necessary.

DRAINAGE.—A, 1. 6 x 1. 0 concrete sewer has been laid in the Boone Road, between Miller and Woosung Roads.

A 12" pipe drain has been laid in the ditch in front of Wayside, Yangtze-poo Road.

Manholes have been rebuilt and fitted with iron covers in Hankow and Fuhkien Roads.

Gullies have been rebuilt and fitted with iron covers in the Ningpo Road between Shanse and Fuhkien Roads; Woo-foo-loong, between Ningpo and Taiwan Roads; and in Woosung and Minghong Roads.

The drain-mouths and manholes in the English and Hongkew Settlements have been cleaned.

CREEKS.—Dredging the Soochow Creek, in front of the Garbage Yard, Chekiang Road.

STREET PAVEMENTS.—Composite pavement has been laid on the west side of Kiangse Road, between Hongkong and Soochow Roads; north side of the Broadway, between Chaoufoong and Dent Roads; west side of Woosung Road, between Boone and Quinsan Roads; north side of Minghong Road, between Miller and Woosung Roads.

The composite pavements in the following roads have been painted with coal tar.—Szechuen Road, between Canton and Sung-kiang Roads; Canton Road, between Szechuen Road and the Bund; Foochow Road, between Honan Road and the Bund; Nanking Road, between Honan and Kiangse Roads; Bund between Peking Road and the Garden Bridge; and Peking Road.

CHIP-PAVING.—Woo-foo-loong, between Taiwan and Ningpo Road. Repairing chip-paving in Sungkiang Road, between Fuhkien and Yunnan Roads; and in the Bun-tong-loong and Woo-foo-loong alleys.

14 gate crossings have been chip-paved on Broadway and Woosung Road footpaths.

CURB AND CHANNEL.—Concrete curb and channel has been laid in Ningpo Road, between Shanse and Fuhkien Roads. Stone curb and channel has been re-laid in Ningpo Road, between Shanse and Fuhkien Roads; and in the Woo-foo-loong, between Ningpo and Taiwan Roads. Stone curb and channel has been altered and dressed for composite paving on the west side of Kiangse Road, between Hongkong and Soochow Roads; and in the Broadway, between Woosung and Minghong Roads.

ROADS.—The following roads have been scarified, metalled and steam rolled.—Hankow Road, between Hoopch and Honan Roads; Shantung Road, between Foochow and Hankow Roads; Kiangse Road, between Foochow and Hankow Roads.

Repairs have been made to the Broadway, between Hwakee and Kungping Roads; Yangtze-poo Road, between Paper Mill and Waterworks; and to the North Szechuen, Woosung, Chaoufoong and Keecheong Roads.

OUTSIDE ROADS.—Repairing bunding to the Carter Road Chip Yard. Metalling the Jessfield Road.

STOCK AND STORES.—During the past month this Department has made the following additions to drainage stores:—

470—8" concrete drain pipes.

819—6"

446—4"

The works in progress are:—

BUILDINGS.—Building a New Police Station for the Central District, English Settlement.

Building Public Abattoirs on the western bank of the Hongkew Creek, north of the Hanbury Road.

Building Public Market sheds on Lot 1,967 B.C. Hongkew.

Building Traction Engine house in the Thibet Road chip yard.

BRIDGES.—Repairing and painting the North Szechuen Road bridge.

CREEKS.—Dredging the Hongkew Creek in front of the Fearon Road scow.

CEMETERIES.—Raising the addition to the New Cemetery with earth. Erecting a wooden fence and fixing number plates to grave spaces in New Cemetery.

DRAINAGE.—Constructing a brick sewer in the Shantung Road, between Foochow and Sungkiang Roads. Laying drain pipes Market Lot, Hongkew. Extending brick sewer in the Szechuen Road across Soochow Road and foreshore to Soochow Creek.

Building gullies Boone Road and rebuilding gullies Museum Road.

PAVEMENTS.—Laying composite pavement in Museum and Peking Roads, near the British Post Office.

CHIP-PAVING.—Relaying chip-paving in Ningpo Road, between Shanse and Fuhkien Roads.

CURB AND CHANNEL.—Relaying curb and channel Szechuen Road, between Hongkong and Soochow Roads; and in Boone Road. Repairing curb and channel in Museum and Peking Roads, near the British Post Office.

METALLING.—Kiangse Road, between Nanking and Ningpo Roads; and approaches to the North Szechuen Road bridge, Hongkew side.

ROADS.—Raising the Woochang Road extension with earth.

REPAIRING.—Generally repairing the various roads in and outside the Settlements.

ROAD MATERIALS.—During the past month the contractor has delivered 1,130 tons of road materials.

The Meeting then adjourned.

The following reports are submitted, and ordered to be published with the foregoing minutes:—

Police.—Return of apprehensions, etc., made by the Municipal Police during the week ending the 26th day of November, 1892.

Offences.	No. of apprehensions.
Breach of Municipal Regulations	5
Burglary	8
Fraud	2
Furious riding or driving	3
Gambling	1
Kidnapping	2
Larceny from persons	2
" dwellings, &c.	42
Miscellaneous cases	82
Ricsha Licences suspended	704
" confiscated	14
Wheelbarrow Licences suspended	52
Hand cart	1
Beggars, Hawkers, and Ragpickers	325
Total number of persons coming under the notice of Police	1,243
Chinese dead bodies found in streets ..	2
Stray dogs captured	55

J. P. McEVEN,
Captain Superintendent, S.M.P.

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION IN SHANGHAI.

On Monday afternoon Mr. N. J. Hannen, H.B.M.'s Chief Justice and Consul General, presided over a numerously attended meeting convened at the instance of Mr. John Macgregor for the purpose of drawing attention to the advantages of the China Association.

The Chairman said the meeting arose out of a communication that a few members of the China Association resident in Shanghai received some time ago, suggesting some action either to form a branch of the Association or to urge upon persons resident in China the desirability of becoming members of the Association at home. No doubt all present would understand that whilst

he (the Chairman) took the greatest interest in the Association and thought that it might be in many cases of great advantage to British interests in China, yet in his official capacity he could not very well take any active position in the matter. It might be that they differed from him, and from the Consulate in their views on what should be done, and under such circumstances it might be awkward if he had any prominent position in the Association. It might also be as well that he should not take any prominent action in the matter now, but that he should take the ordinary position of a chairman and leave it to others to discuss the matter.

Mr. John Macgregor said that perhaps some people after reading the advertisement might consider the proposal to form a local association as interfering with the Chamber of Commerce, and that their action might clash. It would be the last thing he should do, but it was not impossible that on certain questions it would be desirable for British residents to be able to address the British Government directly, and the Chamber of Commerce, from its constitution, he thought, had no *locus standi* in addressing the Government direct, and it could only be through an association such as the China Association. Whether the proper thing was to have a local association, independent in a measure from the China Association, or whether they should enrol themselves as members of the parent association it would be for the meeting to say. His own opinion was that they should enrol themselves as members of the parent association and get some gentleman here to act as corresponding secretary on behalf of the local resident members. Such an appointment would be honorary. When he was at home it was represented to him that there but few members of the Association in Shanghai, and as he knew there was much sympathy here with the objects of the Association, he could only attribute it to the want of opportunity for affiliating themselves to it. He need not tell them the members of the Association at home took a great interest in the place. It was really quite a treat to see the face of the Hon. Sec. at home, Mr. Gundry, when he mentioned Shanghai, and all matters connected with Shanghai and the other ports were watched with interest. On several occasions they had had to ask the assistance of the Association, and their requests had always been well received. The entrance fee to the Association was a guinea, and there was an annual subscription of a guinea. Having read the objects of the Association he proposed the following resolution "That this meeting recommends British subjects resident in Shanghai to join the China Association; and that a local committee to consist of five members, with an Honorary Secretary, form the local executive."

Mr. W. V. Drummond seconded the resolution and referred to the good work which the Straits Association had been able to accomplish. He did not think that the local executive here would be likely to conflict with the Chamber of Commerce, pointing out that it would be very useful to have some local machinery whereby the opinion on any subject of the British community could be ascertained and represented to the authorities at home. The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

Proposed by Mr. Baird, and seconded by Mr. Brand, a resolution was adopted appointing Messrs. Skottowe, Dudgeon, Bois, Drummond and Macgregor as a committee, the appointment of an Hon. Sec. to be left to them to determine.

The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

A FAIR, BEAUTIFUL SKIN.—Sulpholine Soap gives the natural tint and peach-like bloom of a perfect complexion; makes the Skin smooth, supple, healthy, comfortable. Sulpholine Soap, 6d. Tablets. Everywhere. (4)

THE SHANGHAI LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY.

At the inaugural meeting for the season of the Shanghai Literary and Debating Society, which took place on Monday night, in the rooms of the Royal Asiatic Society, Mr. George Jamieson delivered a lecture upon "The principal epochs in European history, and some books in connection therewith." Mr. John Macgregor occupied the chair, and there was a numerous attendance.

Mr. Jamieson prefaced his address by disclaiming any intention to compile a list of the best hundred books, and said that his remarks were mainly intended for the younger members of the Society, who were prepared to rear upon the foundation of their knowledge a superstructure of large and varied information, and to enrich their minds with the best ideas of the ages. In Shanghai, in the Public Library and in the Club Library, they had a vast store of literature accessible to all, but whilst it was better to read anything rather than nothing at all, a well directed course of reading was far more conducive to mental improvement than a mere desultory flitting from book to book. His own reading, he confessed, had been desultory enough, but he had here and there hit upon what he might call a rich vein of literature, and he had always found it most interesting and most useful to work it out to the bottom before passing on to something else. As illustrating this he referred to Boswell's *Life of Johnson*, and showed how by a systematised following up of the names there met with, and the incidents recorded, the student would be introduced to Edmund Burke and the politics of the time; the two Pitts, who guided the destinies of England off and on, and during most critical times, for half a century; Pitt's great antagonist Charles James Fox, and another distinguished man, Richard Brinsley Sheridan, actor, dramatic author, and in his odd moments amateur statesman. Then as men of action would come Lord Clive and Warren Hastings, dealt with in Lord Macaulay's two famous essays. Of course a great many other names might be mentioned, for the latter half of the eighteenth century was particularly rich in great events and great names; but what he had said would indicate what he meant,—that in reading they should work on a system and follow up the lead given by whatever work at hand. These remarks applied with greater force to historical studies, for in all the long course of human events, every change and every development was governed by fixed laws. Nations rose and fell, cities and towns perished and decayed, but not by chance caprice. The doctrine of evolution had now so penetrated every field of enquiry that it was not surprising to find it applied to historical studies. Here, as elsewhere, everything went by rule; the reign of law was supreme. Through all the turmoil of nations, and notwithstanding the infinite number of causes at work—the ambition of statesmen, the caprice or ill-humour of kings and princes, the family feuds, the thousand and one causes which had led nations into vain and seemingly useless conflict,—one increasing purpose could be seen leading men to higher things. The progress was ever onward, though there had been many a sad slip backwards, slips that had cost hundreds of years to recover lost ground. The importance of a thorough acquaintance with history for everyone who wanted to have a well cultivated mind could not be too much insisted upon, and a man should not in fact be satisfied until he was fairly able to write a universal history of the world,—that is, be able to trace the sequence of the leading epochs and to say what came before and what after. In this connection the lecturer referred to Sir Edward Creasy's *Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World*, and proceeded to trace the Battle of Marathon, which secured for

Athens the supremacy of the seas, and enabled her to progress on a career of universal dominion until her arms received a check at the Battle of Syracuse. The result of this latter conflict was to put a stop to Greek conquest to the westward, and gave time for the infantile Roman republic to grow and strengthen. Carthage becoming supreme, set out upon a career of conquest, until she in turn was defeated, and the undisputed possession of the sea passed to Rome. The lesson to be learned from that time was that the mistress of the sea was the mistress of the world. In those times the only sea known was the Mediterranean Sea, and the City or State that for the time being was most powerful at sea was the most important both politically and commercially. Phœnicia, Athens, Carthage, Rome, in early times; Genoa and Venice, in the Middle ages; and Portugal, Spain, and Holland, in modern times, had all in turn had it, and lost it. While it lasted commercial and political prosperity was assured, when it failed prosperity passed elsewhere. Trade follows the flag, so long as the flag is strong enough to protect it, but no longer. Allow that command to be wrested from you, or suffer it to fall into feebleness and decay, then farewell to greatness. The lesson was for us. If ever we ceased to rule the waves we might close the doors and put up the shutters. Not all the wealth of England would save her, and *Ichabod* might be written on the walls,—her glory was departed. Leaving the consideration of other momentous battles, the lecturer referred to the foundation of all modern history—the break-up of the Roman Empire—and before going on to call attention to the prominent events of the period, compared the general state of human knowledge before and after the disruption of the Roman Empire. In this connection he brought to the notice of the audience a book which had always struck him as being one of the best of its kind, and which he thought was not so well known as it ought to be, *A History of the Intellectual Development of Europe*, by Dr. Draper, late Professor in the University of New York. The general theory of the book was that the intellectual life of nations, like that of man, had its periods of infancy, youth, growth, manhood, and decay. "You have," said the lecturer "in all cases first the age of credulity or faith, which is the period of childhood and youth, when everything is taken on trust, when belief in miracles, in the efficacy of saints and relics, in magic, witchcraft, and all kindred superstitions is prevalent. Then comes the age of enquiry, which is the period of early manhood, when men begin to ask are these things really so. This is the age of criticism, of the propounding of heretical doctrine, of the struggle between the old faith and the new reason, of the persecution for heresy,—whenever the old faith is strong enough to get the aid of the civil power,—of the inquisition, of martyrdom, and so on. Then comes the age of reason, which is the period of mature manhood, when criticism has silenced opposition, when superstition finally disappears, and nothing is held true that cannot be supported by sound logic. This is the age of Inductive Philosophy, when nature is studied as she presents herself and the general laws that govern the universe are slowly evolved out of a patient accumulation of facts. This is also the age of the great mechanical discoveries; of inventions which promote the material comfort of mankind and increase our command over the forces of nature. Finally and lastly, according to our author, there comes a period of intellectual decrepitude, when the energies of the race are exhausted, their powers of original research are gone, and much of the knowledge thus slowly accumulated is lost or passes into the hands of a younger and more vigorous nation." The lecturer went on to point out that it was a singular fact that the first period of which Professor Draper treated

did, in effect, correspond very accurately to the phases thus indicated. The period in question was that of the Greek and Roman civilisation up to the overthrow of the Roman Empire. It extended from the dawn of Greek history down to some three hundred years after the birth of Christ. The period of greatest mental activity was the four hundred years immediately preceding the Christian era,—the period when flourished the greatest men whose names were still held in reverence, the names of Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Archimedes, Euclid, Hipparchus, Ptolemy, and many more. The Alexandrine school extended the bounds of human knowledge in a manner quite unknown in the previous history of the world, and as far as scientific method was concerned they came appreciably near to the achievements of the nineteenth century. Then the western world slid back as it were a thousand years, and the long battle with ignorance, superstition, and credulity had to be fought over again. Amongst the causes which contributed to the decline of the old Philosophy was the growth of the new religion of Christianity, which nurtured on miracle, and proud of the fact that the sacred truths had been revealed, not to the wise and learned, but to ignorant fishermen and peasants, could in those days have no toleration for the doctrines of pure reason. Europe after her age of credulity and her age of faith, at the latter end of the fifteenth century was at her age of reason. The first great feature was the revival of learning, the next the invention of printing, and the great maritime discoveries. Some of these latter the lecturer traced, as well as the important results which they effected. The last event to which he referred was the Reformation, which gave an impulse to free thought and original enquiry. England did not all at once slip into the front rank of nations. The Dutch were no less adventurous on sea than they were resolute on land. Antwerp became the principal seaport of the world, and its merchant vessels traded to all seas, as their numerous colonies and possessions in the East Indies attested. They were the pioneers of commerce in China and Japan,—witness the old Dutch forts that still existed in north and south Formosa. In concluding a very interesting lecture, of which this summary gives but an inadequate idea, Mr. Jamieson said: "The significant feature of modern days in political life is the rise of Democracy—the principle of one man one vote, which is being pressed upon Government both in England and elsewhere. In this, many see a great danger—the danger of government degenerating into mere mob rule, and of the best and wisest in council being overborne by the clamour of the multitude. That there is a danger of the kind there is no doubt. The only safety is in education. Supreme power in the hands of an ignorant mob is the worst possible fate that could befall any country. But with the masses of the people fairly well educated and intelligent, a broadening of the franchise ought to give the most stable form of government. On the whole I for one am content to trust to the common sense of my countrymen, to their caution, power of self-restraint and self-government, and I look forward to the future with confidence."

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CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

An extraordinary general meeting of the proprietors of this bank was held on 19th October, at the City Terminus Hotel, under the presidency of Mr. William Paterson.—The Chairman in moving the declaration of an interim dividend at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum, said that they met for the simple purpose of obtaining the sanction of the shareholders for the payment of that dividend. Knowing, as they did, that the past half-year had been one of trouble, it was pleasing to be able to say that, after providing for everything, they were quite able to pay the same dividend they had for the past ten years. They were told on a former occasion that their funds were practically in gold, and as there had been various questions on the subject, he thought it right to tell them again that they continued this policy, and there was little probability of their departing from it while there was so much uncertainty with regard to the silver question. He need scarcely say that the Eastern trade was never in a more unsatisfactory state than now, and that Anglo-Indian banking is affected by the change in currency in relation to gold. He might venture to hope, however, that some amelioration of the troubles would result from the International Congress, which would meet next month in Brussels. (Laughter.) He heard shareholders laugh; but he hoped that they would be able to laugh also hereafter.—Mr. E. Levita seconded the motion.—Dr. Drysdale asked upon what grounds there was any alarm in relation to the currency. It seemed to him that there could be no danger, because they were receiving and paying away in the same currency in India.—The Chairman said they were constantly working with silver in India, and they were always keeping gold in view, as that was the currency to which they must look.—Dr. Drysdale asked whether there was any danger in India on account of the currency.—The Chairman said if they kept within certain bounds, there was no danger.—A shareholder asked if, after payment of dividend, the reserve would be intact. The Chairman: The reserve remains intact, and in gold. (Cheers.)—A Shareholder: There has been a disastrous shipwreck and a large loss of silver. Is the bank interested in that?—The Chairman: I am not aware that we are; but if we should have any loss, it will be well insured.—The resolution was put, and carried unanimously, and a vote of thanks to the chairman closed the meeting.—*Financial News.*

THE CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON, AND CHINA.

(From the "MONEY MARKET REVIEW" of October 22, 1892.)

The half-yearly general meeting of the proprietors took place on Tuesday within the Banking-house, 65, Old Broad-street, Mr. J. N. Bullen presiding.

The Chief Manager (Mr. William Jackson) read the notice calling the meeting and the report was taken as read.

The Chairman said: The directors' report, which has been for some days in your hands, has put clearly before you the unfavourable working of the bank during the past half-year, and the causes which have led up to its present unsatisfactory state. The proximate causes of the bank's difficulties are those stated in the directors' report—the suspension of the New Oriental Bank Corporation, and the serious loss sustained through the frauds committed at the Bombay branch. The more remote causes are the shrinkage in the gold value of the bank's capital fixed abroad, the violent fluctuations in silver during recent years, which have imported so

much of a speculative character into Eastern exchange banking, many failures amongst the bank's customers, and depreciation in the value of securities lodged with the bank against advances. As regards the first-named cause, the suspension of the Oriental Bank Corporation, the effect of this was to start a severe run on the bank's Eastern branches. The suspension took place early in June, and by the end of that month the bank had lost at its Eastern branches over a million of its deposits and note issue. Following on this, early in July came the news of the disaster in Bombay, the loss by which our telegraphic advice led us to place at £65,000, but which has turned out to be even larger, some securities on which the Bombay manager relied having proved to be unavailable to the bank. I will refer to this matter again, but here will remark that this most unfortunate loss greatly aggravated our difficulties. It may, in fact, be said to have destroyed the hope there was, up to that time, of confidence being restored amongst the bank's depositors. The withdrawals induced by the suspension of the Oriental Bank Corporation had, in fact, slackened at the end of June, and some disposition was apparent amongst depositors to resume their old relations with the bank. With this fresh shock to confidence a renewal of withdrawals at once set in, which was further stimulated by exaggerated reports of the bank's losses and an unreasoning rush on the part of some shareholders to sell their shares at prices which showed an utter want of confidence in the bank's position. Under these circumstances, the directors have had to consider very anxiously what course it would be best to pursue in the interests of the shareholders. Weakened as the bank had been by the withdrawal of deposits, it became impossible for it, with prudence, to undertake new business. During this anxious period the current business of the bank had, in fact, been almost suspended. The time and attention of the management has been entirely given up to getting the resources of the bank into such a position that all claims upon it could be met as they matured. When it is considered that the bank's assets are spread over eleven branches, and they have had to be got in during a period of such stress and difficulty, it says a good deal for their liquid character that so much has been found possible. What has been done, however, justifies the expectation expressed in the report that every claim upon the bank will be met as it matures, and that a considerable surplus will be left over, after satisfying every creditor. I will now advert to the disastrous loss which the bank has sustained through the frauds of Beyts, Craig, and Co. When a bank sustains losses of this character, the presumption naturally is that there has been either great imprudence or great negligence on the part of the management. I wish to satisfy you that as regards the London management no blame can in this instance be attached to it. Our Bombay agent had for some years done business with this firm, purchasing its bills on its London house secured for payment by bills of lading for produce. These bills had been regularly met and nothing had occurred to raise the faintest suspicion of fraud. Finding, however, that the account was running into larger figures than we cared to see, we early in April telegraphed to the Bombay agent to stop purchases of these bills, and by letter we instructed him to limit his purchases in future to from £20,000 to £30,000 running at any one time. This was a perfectly justifiable limit under the circumstances as anyone having knowledge of such business will admit. Unable to sell more bills on its London house, the Bombay firm then offered bills similarly secured on independent firms of good standing. That the firm should have authority to draw on such houses indicated a strength which gave

confidence to our Bombay agent, and he was thereby induced to take bills on these houses to a considerable extent. Thus, when the fraud was discovered, the bank held a large amount of the firm's bills on independent houses as well as on its London house, and this was increased by bills in transit from Bombay which arrived after the fraud was discovered. It is impossible to acquit the Bombay agent of grave imprudence in dealing so largely with a firm of this standing, but he was no doubt thrown off his guard by the facility with which they obtained authority to draw on independent firms. It would occupy too much time to go into the whole details of this disastrous fraud, but I may say that a gentleman of high standing in the City, who has had occasion to go thoroughly into the affair in connection with law proceedings which are pending, entirely acquitted the London office of any blame in the matter, and I am sure that any impartial person having the same opportunity of judging would arrive at the same conclusion. It is not necessary, I think, that I should refer at length to the figures of the balance-sheet. The salient features in it are the great falling-off in the deposits and note circulation and the reduction of the cash balances. The greater portion of this occurred in June, as has been already explained. You will observe also that a sum of £40,000 has been set aside for possible losses on old accounts, the liquidation of which has not been completed. By this provision it is considered that old outstandings are sufficiently provided for, and it is possible the whole sum may not be required, if time be given to liquidate these old outstandings. The whole of the bank's capital being, however, abroad in silver, without provision for depreciation in its gold value, and the other resources of the bank, deposits, current accounts, note issue, being greatly reduced, the question arises what is now to be done? Recent deplorable events have so weakened the position and credit of the bank that unless something is done to rehabilitate it, it is evident that the business can no longer be carried on to a profit. After much consideration, having had under review several schemes, and after consulting some of the larger shareholders, the board have come to the conclusion that the best course for all concerned is a reconstruction of the bank by registering it under the Limited Liability Acts. This would really mean the formation of a new bank, which would take over the current business, assets, and liabilities of the existing bank. With this view the directors have formulated a scheme, a draft of which has been sent to each shareholder for his consideration. Our chief reasons for considering that the new bank would, if started, be successful, are, first of all, that it is wanted. In this view we are confirmed by telegrams received from India to the effect that the banking facilities are now inadequate. This must be so when we consider the enormous sum of money which has quite recently been withdrawn from Eastern banking by the failure of the New Oriental Banking Corporation, the restriction of business by the Chartered Mercantile Bank, and the vast withdrawal of deposits generally, brought about by the recent alarming fall in the value of silver. Together, these may be roughly estimated at 15,000,000 to 20,000,000 sterling. The effect of this, and the very severe losses which Eastern banks have sustained, will tend to lessen competition, and lead to more remunerative working in the future. If, therefore, this bank is re-established with a clean book, taking over the existing bank's assets at a reasonably low figure, and strengthened by the introduction of new capital, it may be reasonably expected to prove successful. The Chartered Mercantile Bank is the oldest Eastern bank; it has always maintained a high position in the East; it is popular, and has a good connection, and its

old customers would no doubt gather round it as soon as it was solidly reconstructed. The alternative to reconstruction is a liquidation of the bank by the directors, whereby all assets will be got in, all liabilities met, and the surplus ultimately divided amongst the shareholders. This course would, however, necessarily be costly. A staff would have to be kept up; rents would have to be paid; leaseholds and freeholds would have to be got rid of, and, moreover, the assets would be more difficult of recovery by a bank in liquidation than by a going concern. These expenses would be got rid of by the new bank taking over the old bank as a going concern. I propose, therefore, to put to you a resolution affirming in principle the desirability of reconstructing the bank. I trust that this proposal will meet with considerable support, if not with entire unanimity. I desire to state that no shareholder in voting for this resolution is pledged to the scheme put forward by the directors. That scheme is only before you as one for consideration. Although it commends itself to us as a fair and equitable scheme for both old and new shareholders, it is quite possible that a better scheme may be forthcoming. What we propose to-day is not to discuss the merits or demerits of this particular scheme, but simply to affirm the principle that a reconstruction is desirable, and then to refer the whole matter to a committee of directors, jointly with a few shareholders to be nominated by this meeting. I would add to what I have already said that, in starting a new bank, all expenses would be considerably reduced, unremunerative branches closed, and only the services retained of those who are actually necessary for the efficient working of the bank, and rigid economy generally exercised. (Applause.) New blood would also be introduced into the directorate, and generally such reorganisation of the management would be made as might appear desirable. The new bank would also start with the advantage of half its capital being in gold, and the half which is abroad written down to the low exchange of 1s. 2½d., so that anything which may happen to rehabilitate silver would increase its gold value. The chairman then proposed the following resolutions.—(1) "That the report, with the audited statement of accounts and balance-sheet to the 30th of June last, presented to this meeting, be and the same are hereby approved and adopted, and this meeting sanctions and approves the interim curtailment and reconstruction of the business of the bank proposed in such report." (2) "That in the opinion of this meeting, and with the view of obtaining the introduction of the needed new capital, it is desirable that steps should be taken for the reconstruction of the bank, and that accordingly a small committee of shareholders be appointed to confer with the directors thereon, and on the proposed scheme of reconstruction, or any modification thereof, and as to how the same can best be carried out, and to report thereon to a meeting of the shareholders." The chairman added that the absent shareholders had sent a large number of proxies in favour of these resolutions. (Applause.)

Mr. E. J. Daniell seconded the resolutions.

Mr. Lamont considered that it was no use bemoaning what had passed. He wished to know, at the same time, whether it was not possible to avoid such terrific losses as the bank had experienced. The result seemed to indicate that some better system should be adopted than at present prevailed. (Applause.)

Mr. Hurst said the report showed there had been a great want of care and attention on the part of the directors as to the manner in which the bank's business had been conducted. If a reconstruction were decided upon he did not believe the "B" shareholders would get anything at all. He was, therefore, in favour of winding-up the bank

and dividing the assets. (Cries of "No, no.")

Mr. Barber thought it would help the proprietors in coming to a decision if the chairman mentioned what steps would be taken definitely as to altering the downward course of the bank. He wished for information as to the new members who would be on the directorate; also if it was intended to go on with the same staff, because bad debts appeared to have been made at all the agencies. Not only was new blood wanted on the board, but also a clean sweep among the officers abroad. There was no doubt a future for the bank if they only had the right men to manage its affairs. (Applause.)

Mr. Samuel Montagu, M.P., said that the defaulting firm had not been trusted on its own merits, but the officials had relied on the security tendered them. He defied any firm to protect themselves on all occasions against forgery and fraud. What the proprietors had now to consider was whether the goodwill of the bank, which must be worth a great deal, was to be secured or abandoned. He understood from the chairman that it was intended to do nothing without consultation with a committee of the shareholders' own selection. He had not a very large stake in the bank, but he was willing to give his services in connection with a reconstruction. (Applause.)

Mr. Melchers had made careful inquiries, and from all sides he found a desire that the bank should be continued and reconstructed. He would like to know if the business which has been lost could be recovered, and if such losses as had occurred for so many years could be avoided. He himself believed they could be avoided under proper management, in which case he was willing that the bank should be reconstructed, and was ready to assist. (Applause.)

Mr. Lyall remarked that a reconstruction, as put forward in the circular, meant abandoning the charter, and coming under the Limited Liability Acts. In that case, the bank must either give up its note issue or undertake an unlimited liability for that issue. He considered the better course would be to raise fresh capital under the charter by means of preference shares. As a shareholder of twenty years' standing, he might say that when he first joined the bank the losses were made by speculations on this side in rupee paper, &c., but, since the present chairman had been on the board, caution had prevailed here, and the losses had been made on the other side. If the branch managers could only be controlled, he believed the bank would do well in the future. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. E. H. Lushington suggested the following gentlemen as a committee to confer with the board. The names were Mr. Samuel Montagu, M.P., Sir Alexander Wilson, Mr. B. T. Bosanquet, Mr. R. Halford, J.P., of Nottingham, and Mr. F. W. Lunau. Sir Alex. Wilson had occupied an important position in Calcutta as head of Messrs. Jardine, Skinner, and Co., and was well acquainted with banking business, having been for some time president of the Bank of Bengal. (Applause.)

Mr. Lee said that either the management of the bank was incompetent to deal with its affairs properly, or the losses from which it had suffered were inseparable from the business carried on. Whichever of these propositions were correct, an investment in the shares of the bank was not one which any reasonable person should undertake. (Cries of "No, no.")

Mr. Croysdale considered there was a prospect of the bank doing well in the future. It was, in fact, simply a matter of management. He therefore advised the meeting to support the reconstruction of the bank. (Applause.)

Mr. Field, as an old shareholder, said he would be sorry to see the bank liquidated, and he was, therefore, prepared to support its reconstruction. He considered, how-

ever, that the "A" stock appeared to have too much priority given it. The "A" and "B" stock in such a case should rank alike.

The Chairman, in reply, said that some shareholders had spoken as if this bank only was subject to these frauds, but a much larger institution had recently been compelled to wipe off nearly half a million sterling for losses during one half-year, while another bank had to write off ten lakhs of rupees for losses through fraud in Calcutta. In spite of every precaution, it was impossible in every case to be protected against fraud. Even with the large amount of bills the bank held of the firm which had failed, they supposed they had securities in hand representing the value of every rupee advanced. In reply to Mr. Melchers, he might say advices had been received that if the bank were reconstituted there was every reason to suppose their best customers would again rally round them. Mr. Field seemed to think the terms were unduly favourable to the "A" shareholders, but what they had to do was to offer something which would attract fresh capital. There were two alternative propositions before them, one being to wind up the bank and divide the assets, and the other to reconstruct. If the shareholders decided on the latter course they would get a marketable security, which, if realised, would give them more than they would receive out of a liquidation of the bank. By giving up the charter they would lose their right of note issue, unless it were made an unlimited charge. The charter, however, did not permit of any capital being called up unless in case of a liquidation. The shareholders were only asked to decide on the principle of reconstruction, and in accepting that they would in no way be committed to the scheme now put before them. The scheme was simply put forward as a basis, and would be considered by the committee of shareholders and the directors, who would report to a future meeting. None of the board had parted with a single share during the whole term of his connection with the bank; and, although he did not desire re-election, he would be ready to take his proportion of the new capital. (Applause.)

The Chairman then put the first of the two resolutions, which was carried unanimously, the second motion being agreed to with only three dissentients.

Mr. Bisset Snell then proposed:—"That the following shareholders, viz., Messrs. S. Montagu, M.P., Sir Alexander Wilson, B. T. Bosanquet, R. Halford, of Nottingham, J.P., and F. W. Lunau, be, and they are hereby appointed members of such committee, with power to add to their number, and to settle their procedure and quorum."

Mr. Melchers seconded the resolution, which was agreed to *nem. con.*

Mr. Eking proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman for the admirable manner in which he had performed his duties in the chair. He had the utmost confidence in Mr. Bullen, not only as the chairman, but also as a director of the bank. (Applause.)

The resolution was duly seconded, and carried by acclamation.

The meeting then separated.

Amusements.

THE ST. ANDREW'S BALL.

On Wednesday night St. Andrew, after a residence of many years on the north side of the Soochow Creek, migrated to Hongkew, and thither his votaries—western dancing dervishes—followed him in broughams and jinrickshas, and on foot, and there for many hours they kept up his worship, with music and feasting. The Saint himself, re-painted and with a light behind him, looked out from the end of the New Astor Hall, on the gayest and

brightest scene in the annals of Shanghai. The Hall itself, of which the Caledonian Ball on Wednesday was the inauguration, is a very handsome room with a height of some 30 feet, with a pretty stage at one end, the dancing floor being 100 by 43 feet. It is agreeably decorated, and there were hung between the windows the shields of the different clans, while trophies of palm leaves and flowers, and wreaths of evergreens, added to the effect. It was fairly well lighted with gas, and the only possible improvement in the Hall itself would have been the substitution of electric lighting. On the stage, which was backed with a very pretty scene, and had a fountain in the centre, many of those who were not dancing assembled, and they looked down upon a most brilliant spectacle. There were at least seven hundred people, hosts and guests, in the Hall together, some two hundred and fifty being ladies in bright and pretty frocks of all colours, with which were mingled about a dozen kilts, the uniforms of numberless naval officers, including the English and American Admirals, volunteers and firemen, the black and white costumes of the civilians being a relief to the glancing flashes of colour. The floor was excellent and the dancing spirited. From the back of the stage a staircase led up to a gallery outside the east wall of the hall, into which its clerestory windows opened, and each of these windows became a little private box, from which the spectators could gaze on the bright scene below. This gallery led into the music gallery at the south end of the Hall, where Mr. Vela conducted the town band in the execution of the following programme:—

1. Waltz—Ange d'Amour Waldteufel.
 2. Galop—The Postillion Fourdrin.
 3. Lancers—Erminie Jakubowski.
 4. Waltz—For You Ostlere.
 5. Reel
 6. Waltz—La Toscana Bucalossi.
 7. Caledonians Arranged by M. Vela.
 8. Waltz—Ever and Ever Mine. Coote.
- Highland Fling.
March by the Pipers.

- Supper { 1. Waltz—Dance des Yeux
2. Highland Schottische
Dances { 3. Waltz—El Dorado
4. Polka—Ta-ra-ra Boom-de-ay
9. Galop—Stanley Kenzie.
10. Reel
11. Dancing in the Barn Turner.
12. Caledonians Arranged by M. Vela.
13. Waltz—Love's Golden Dream Bonheur.
14. Highland Schottische
15. Polka—Chappies Fare.
16. Waltz—La Créole Fare.

Below the whispering gallery, as it was called, was a corridor, provided with seats, leading into the smoking and card room, a large room in which thirst was quenched; while opposite the Hall itself was a smaller room draped with flags, in which light refreshments were served. Mr. Jansen, the proprietor of the Astor House, and Mr. Arthur, his manager, had been indefatigable in their efforts to secure the comfort of all who came to the hall, and the only drawback was that this room and the corridor were somewhat cold, while the large amount of gas consumed made the Hall itself somewhat warm. As far as the dancing was concerned, however, it was undoubtedly one of the best, as well as being the largest, of the numerous large balls that have been given in Shanghai. Three pipers inspired the Scottish dances. The supper and the attendance were not quite up to the standard that has been attained at former events of the kind, but then we have learnt to become critical; and there was no one who did not praise the wines, for which our leading wine merchants, whom it is unnecessary to name, were responsible. It must be remembered, too, if any shortcomings in the environments of the hall were noticed, that it was the first time so important a function had been given.

at the Astor House, and that the recent rebuilding and alterations had interfered considerably with the preparations. On the whole, it is rather to be wondered at that so great a success was attained on the first attempt.

After the programme had been completed and all the ladies had left, the survivors gathered at the second supper, which was enlivened by speeches and songs, and it was not until half-past five yesterday morning that the last company, twenty or thirty strong, marched along the Bund to the Club, headed by the pipers. Thus harmoniously ended the St. Andrew's Ball of 1892, organised and carried out by the following gallant Scots, to whom the thanks of the community are due for an evening long to be remembered:—

Committee.—John Macgregor, President; J. B. Cameron, Vice-President; F. Anderson, D. T. Black, J. Ferrier, Duncan Glass, Geo. Jamieson, Robt. Kennedy, Jas. McKie, W. D. Graham, Hon. Secretary.

Stewards.—Colin Buchanan, R. M. Campbell, A. G. H. Carruthers, Geo. Coutts, John Ford, W. Sharp Fraser, Drummond Hay, Geo. Millar, J. H. MacLaren, R. Macgregor, S. M. McLeish, W. C. Pirie, J. Prentice, Duncan Reid, H. A. Ritchie, C. S. Sharp, Neil Sinclair, Allan Stewart.

In our next issue we shall give a full list of those invited to and present at the ball, as guests or subscribers.

MR. CROMPTON'S ORGAN RECITAL.

On Thursday night (24th) at the Cathedral Mr. F. L. Crompton gave the first of his Organ Recitals for the season. It was evident from the very large attendance that these musical feasts are much to the taste of residents, for to be drawn from the comfort of the fire-side upon such a keen evening needed a more than usually powerful attraction. The programme was particularly selected with a view to show off the various capacities of the Organ, and it must at once be said that Mr. Crompton succeeded again in demonstrating his great abilities at the instrument. The first piece consisted of an *Allegro*, displaying the full power of the organ, and an *Andante con Moto*, in which the lighter stops of the great organ were conspicuous, both by Smart. Strainer's anthem "Ye shall dwell in the land," by the Cathedral Choir followed, the Choir being reinforced by Mrs. McDonald, Mrs. Neilson, Mrs. Valentine, Mrs. Inglis, Mrs. Craddock, Mrs. Lanning, Miss Wilcockson, and Messrs. Dyce, Stepharius and Oram. The first solo for bass was admirably rendered by Mr. Charles Wedemeyer, and the second solo by Mr. Franks; Mrs. Inglis, Mrs. Goodfellow, Mr. Franks, and Mr. Wedemeyer singing the quartet. After this Mr. Crompton played with excellent taste and judgment a fine *Piuga* by Guilmant, written after the manner of Handel, and Batiste's celebrated *Andante* in G, in which the *vox humana* and the *vox angelica* stops are employed with such happy effect. Then came what in an ordinary programme would be called the *pièce de résistance*—Mendelssohn's "Hear my prayer," by Mrs. F. J. Roche and the Cathedral Choir. The singing of the solo by Mrs. Roche was beyond all praise; her enunciation was markedly good, and her low and upper tones were especially sweet. A pleasing composition by Guilmant, "The Manger," in which the effect of a hymn being sung in the distance was artistically managed by Mr. Crompton, preceded Mozart's *Gloria* from the XII Mass. Special pains had been bestowed upon this latter, and the employment of drums and horns gave a volume of melody which was certainly impressive. The peaceful quartet was in admirable contrast, and was most tastefully sung by Mrs. Roche, Mrs. Goodfellow, Mr. Franks, and Mr. James Jones. After the execution of Wely's bright and spirited *Grand Offertoire* in C. by Mr. Crompton,

the programme was fulfilled by the rendering of Handel's Recitative "Comfort ye my people" by Mr. A. J. Franks, whose declamation was exceptionally fine, and the chorus "And the glory of the Lord," by the Cathedral Choir. The effect of the latter was greatly enhanced by the use of the horns. In conclusion it should be said that the placing of the Choir in the Chancel seems to have many advantages over the ordinary arrangement, and added not a little to the musical success of the evening.

SHANGHAI HORSE, DOG AND POULTRY SHOW.

The sixth annual Show of the Society was successfully held on Saturday on the Race Course. The weather was bright, but cold, and there was a fairly large attendance of visitors, who apparently took a very keen interest in the exhibits, and particularly in the pony leaping competition. Some 87 entries had been received in the pony classes, being considerably in excess of last year. The leaping contest attracted the customary amount of attention, but somehow or other it did not appear particularly good. *En Avant* and *Puritan* were markedly superior to the other competitors, and it was early apparent that they were the two animals likely to demand the judges' greatest attention. *Puritan* was particularly good at the fences, and *En Avant* at the water jump, the latter eventually securing the first prize for the best general performance. The tandem driving was a very pretty display, and the victories of Mr. R. W. Shaw, in Class 5, and Mr. "Frank" in Class 6 evidently gave satisfaction to the on-lookers. The latter gentleman gave an exceedingly clever exhibition of driving, his handling of *Cheeky* and *Chunky*, the pretty black pair, being a pleasure to see. In the dog classes, the judges on the whole had a comparatively easy task. The fox terriers were a fair lot, the English pointers poor, and the retrievers very good. In the non-sporting dogs division, Mr. Harry Maitland secured a well deserved first with a fine bull-dog, *Bully Boy*. The poultry classes were of high average excellence. The Langshans shown by Mr. George Cameron were really magnificent birds, and it is pretty safe to say that they would have secured prizes at any show at home. Had the show been held some six weeks later they would have been in still better form, but of course that arrangement was impossible.

There would have been many more exhibits but for the cold, which the small dogs particularly seemed to feel very keenly.

We append a list of the officials by whom the Show was conducted, but it should be mentioned that the general management was undertaken by Mr. B. A. Clarke, who worked very hard to ensure success.

Committee.—Messrs. John Macgregor, President; R. E. Bredon, H. W. Daniel, J. B. Cameron, C. Beurmann, E. P. Wickham, F. J. Maitland, J. Ward Hall, and C. Mayne; B. A. Clarke, Hon. Treasurer; F. Ayscough, Hon. Sec. Horse and Pony Division; A. E. Jones, Hon. Sec. Dog and Poultry, etc., Division.

Judges:—*Horse and Pony Division*,—Messrs. R. E. Bredon, H. W. Daniel, J. Ward Hall, R. de Malherbe, J. S. Fearon, C. J. Dudgeon, H. Lehmann, A. R. Burkill, Dr. Henderson, F. J. Maitland, Cecil Holliday, and J. B. Cameron; W. G. Moore, in charge of Telegraph.

Referee:—Mr. John Macgregor.

Dog and Poultry, etc., Division.

Sporting Dogs.—Messrs. H. G. Phipps, A. Shewan, D. Marr Henderson, H. B. Endicott, and Smollett Campbell.

Other Dogs.—Messrs. E. P. Wickham, C. Beurmann and H. Maitland.

Poultry, etc.—Mrs. F. H. Bell, Mrs. D. Marr Henderson, and Mr. G. Cameron.

Miscellaneous.—Mrs. A. P. Wood, Mrs. F. J. Maitland, Mrs. W. S. Jackson, Mr. F. W. Styan, and Mr. R. W. Shaw.

The following is the Prize List:—

Horse and Pony Division.

- Class 1.—Hacks. To be ridden.**
 Mr. R. de Malherbe's grey *Diego*, 13h. (Owner) 1
 „ W. V. Drummond's chestnut *General*, 14h. (Mr. W. N. Burkill) 2
 „ Ayscough's chestnut *Fitela*, 13h. 2in. (Owner) 3
- Class 2.—Ponies (14h. 3in. and under). Hunters, weight carriers, 12st. and upwards. To be ridden.**
 Mr. W. Bullard's chestnut *Marmalade*, 13h. 1in. (Mr. F. Maitland) 1
 Dr. Ward Hall's chestnut *Pigua*, 13h. 1in. (Owner) 2
 Mr. R. de Malherbe's grey *Stamford*, 13h. 1in. (Owner) 3
- Class 3.—Ponies 14h. 3in. and under. Hunters, light weight, to carry under 12st. To be ridden. First prize, a cup presented by "Daybreak."**
 Mr. Middleton's dun *Kingcraft*, 13h. 2in. (Mr. H. Read) 1
 „ H. B. Pike's white *En Avant*, 13h. (Mr. Sampson) 2
- Class 4.—Ponies (14h. 3in. and under). In single harness. To be driven.**
 Mr. Bruce Robertson's dun *Mango*, 13h. 2in. (Owner) 1
 „ Frank's black *Chunky*, 13h. (Owner) 2
 „ R. W. Shaw's white *Commander*, 13h. 2in. (Owner) 3
- Class 5.—Ponies (14h. 3in. and under). In tandem. To be driven.**
 Mr. R. W. Shaw's white *Commander*, 13h. 2in., and dun *Blondin*, 13h. 2in. (Owner) 1
 „ J. B. Cameron's dun *Blue Dun*, 14h., and dun *Rejected*, 14h. (Owner) 2
 „ Barnes Dallas' brown *Regulus*, 13h. 2in., and black *Sirius*, 13h. 2in. (Owner) 3
- Class 6.—Driver's Prize. Ponies under 14h. 3in. For driving tandem over a selected course. First prize, a Cup presented by the President.**
 Mr. Frank's black *Chunky*, 13h., and the S.H.B.'s black *Cheeky*, 12h. 2in. (Mr. Frank) 1
 „ R. W. Shaw's white *Commander*, 13h. 3in., and dun *Blondin*, 13h. 2in. (Owner) 2
- Class 7.—Ponies (14h. 3in. and under). Leaping Prize, any class qualified. First Prize, a Cup presented by the Tandem Club.**
 Mr. H. B. Pike's white *En Avant*, 13h. (Mr. Sampson) 1
 „ Inglis's chestnut *Puritan*, 13h. 3in. (Owner) 2
 Dr. Ward Hall's chestnut *Pigua*, 13h. 1in. (Owner) 3

DOGS, POULTRY, ETC., DIVISION.

Division 1—Sporting Dogs.

Class 1.—Fox Terriers. 1, Mr. A. Sugden's *Spark*; 2, Mr. Frank Gove's *Nellie*.

Class 2.—English Pointers. Mr. W. B. Russell's *Snipe*. Hon. Mention.

Class 3.—Gordon Setters. 1, Mr. D. Marr Henderson's *Heather Ken*.

Class 4.—Retrievers (Smooth or wavy coated). 1, Mr. D. Marr Henderson's *Heather Hope*; 2, Mr. D. Marr Henderson's *Bellstone*; 1, Mr. H. G. Phipps' *Bruce* (wavy coated).

Class 5.—Clumber Spaniels. 1, Mr. H. G. Phipps' *Punch*; Hon. Mention, Mr. H. G. Phipps' *Rover*.

Class 6.—Dachshunds. 1, Mr. H. C. Pearce's *Sequah*; 2, Mr. E. B. Skottowe's *Snooks*. Hon. Mention, B. Buschmann's *Mäuschen*.

Division 2.—Dogs not used in field sports.

Class 1.—Bull Dogs. 1, Mr. Harry Maitland's *Bully Boy*.

Class 2.—Bull Terriers. No prize.

Class 3.—Irish Terriers. Mr. W. J. Gresson's *Begorra*, Hon. Mention.

Class 4.—Pekinese Pugs. No prize.

Class 5.—Japanese Pugs. 1, Mr. J. Timm's *Tiny*; Mrs. Moorehead's *Satow*.

Class 6.—Black and Tan Terriers. No prize.

Class 7.—Collies. No prize.

Class 8.—St. Bernards. No prize.

Class 9.—Miscellaneous. 1, Miss Violet Counts' Prince, Corean Pug; Mrs. H. Snethlage's Cesar, Cantonese, Hon. Mention; Mr. A. T. Omundsen's Nana, Hairless, Hon. Mention.

Class 10.—Skye Terriers. 1, Miss Macfarlane's Jamie.

Division 3.—Poultry.

Class 1.—Turkeys. No prize.

Class 2.—Guinea Fowls. 1, Mrs. H. W. Thornley.

Class 3.—Ducks. Pekinese: 1 and 2, Mr. Barnes Dallas. Mandarin: 1, Mr. G. Cameron. Wild Duck: Hon. Mention, Mr. G. Cameron.

Class 4.—Geese, Newchwangs: 1 and 2, Mr. Barnes Dallas. German: 1, Mr. Barnes Dallas. German and Chinese crossed, Hon. Mention, Mr. Barnes Dallas.

Class 5.—Fowls. Black Langshans: 1, Mr. G. Cameron. Mottled Langshans: 1, Mr. G. Cameron; 2 and 3, Mr. Barnes Dallas. Grey Langshans: 1 and 2, Mr. Barnes Dallas. Game Fowls: 1st Mr. G. Cameron. Capons: 1, Mr. G. Cameron. Chinese White Crested: 1, Mr. G. Cameron. Chinese Bantams: 1 and 3, Mr. G. Cameron. 2, Mr. Barnes Dallas. Japanese White Bantams: Hon. Mention, Mrs. Thornley. Polish: 1, Mr. E. J. Hogg; Hon. Mention, Mrs. Thornley.

Class 6.—Pigeons. Black Tumblers: 1, Mrs. Burge, 2, Mr. Richard Dallas. Checkered: 1, Mr. Richard Dallas; 2, Mrs. Burge. Jacobins, 1, Mr. A. F. de Sa; 2, Mrs. Burge. English Pouters: 1, Mr. de Sa. Calcutta Tumblers: 1, Mr. de Sa.

Class 7.—Pheasants: 1, Mr. J. Liddell; 2, Mrs. Burge.

Class 8.—Cats. 1, Mrs. Thornley, Messrs. W. C. Murray and R. Carr; 2, Mr. J. B. Cameron; 3, Master Cory; Hon. Mention, Mr. R. Inglis, Mrs. Thornley.

Class 9.—Rabbits. 1, Mrs. Burge; 2 & 3, Mrs. Thornley.

Class 10.—Monkeys. 1, Mrs. J. Liddell; 2, Mr. B. A. Clarke.

Class 11.—Sheep. 1 & 2, Mr. R. W. Shaw. Classes 12 & 13. No prize.

Class 14.—Goats and Deer. 1, Mr. Telge.

Class 15.—Other varieties of birds. Chinese minah: 1, Mr. G. Cameron; Jay: 1, Mr. Barnes Dallas; Java sparrows: Hon. Mention, Mrs. Burge.

S M. P.

CLUB COMPETITION.

The Club and monthly cup competitions came off on the morning and afternoon of Monday. The day was very cold and a strong wind was blowing from the right front. The shooting was not up to the usual average. Deducting handicaps the prizes in the Club competition were won as follows:—P.C. McGregor 1st, P.S. Bourke 2nd, P.C. Horley 3rd, P.C. Young 4th. Scores:—

	200 yds.	300 yds.	TL.
P.S. Bourke	4525453-28	2543454-27	55
P.C. Horley	443433-24	5454244-28	52
„ McGregor	2454325-25	4254245-26	51
Insp. Wilson	4543543-23	2243432-20	48
P.S. Crank	3442335-24	3444323-23	47
P.C. Young	2225324-20	4525323-24	44
P.S. Macdonald	3424254-24	3225242-20	44
„ Marshall	3354542-26	2043222-15	41

MONTHLY CUP COMPETITION.

The Cup was won for the second time by P.C. Horley.

Scores over 40:—

	300 yds.	500 yds.	TL.
P.C. Horley	5454244-28	5455434-30	58
P.S. Crank	3444-23-23	4445554-31	54
„ Bourke	2543454-27	3545244-27	54
P.C. McGregor	4254245-26	5234445-27	53
Insp. Wilson	2243432-20	53-5253-27	47
P.S. Macdonald	3225242-20	4503555-27	47
Insp. Reed	0254355-24	2254253-23	47
P.C. Mellow	3324333-21	4244542-25	46
C.I. Cameron	2422353-21	4504341-24	45
P.S. Clark	2254244-23	3244253-22	45
P.C. Young	4525323-24	4304532-21	45
P.S. Kelly	2222223-15	5423552-26	41

Correspondence.

THE SILVER QUESTION.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Your correspondent "Diogenes" states in your issue of 6th October that "if the United States had made no provision for giving currency within her own territory to 108 million ounces of silver; instead of a balance of 7 million ounces, there would have been sellers of 343 million ounces, and the price would have been completely at the mercy of buyers who required no more than 235 million ounces, or less than 69 per cent. of the quantity offered."

The reply of the monometallists to this specious argument is that, if currency-mongers and silver speculators had only left legislation severely alone, there would have been no surplus supply at all. It was this silly attempt to raise the value of silver by artificial means that over-stimulated production in much the same way as did the action of the now defunct *Société de Métaux* bring about an over-production of copper and a correspondingly heavy fall in prices. This fall was, however, followed by a reaction until an equilibrium was brought about by the naturally working laws of supply and demand, such as must infallibly ensue with silver, if all government interference, interested and disinterested, is abstained from.

It seems to be too often forgotten in these times of agitation for reforms of every description by Act of Parliament or Act of Congress, that the proper function of governments in regard to the currency is, simply to affix their stamp to a piece of metal certifying to its weight and quality and so save recourse to local *langkuis*, such as the Chinese (among whom governmental non-interference is pushed to an extreme) have to resort to.

Another point which I have not seen sufficiently dwelt upon in the bimetallic controversy which is now agitating two worlds, is the fact of the large proportion of gold now extracted along with silver: I am myself a shareholder in a so-called silver mine in the United States, one half of whose output, in value, is gold.

Add to this fact the increasingly heavy production of pure gold in India, Burma and South Africa (the Transvaal alone produces some £5,000,000 a year), let alone the vast untouched reserve here on our Tibetan border, and it will be seen that the two metals are fully competent to take care of themselves.

I am, etc.,

SPECTATOR.

Szechuan, 5th November.

THE CHINESE CHILDREN IN THE SETTLEMENT.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—It has long been an object of concern to me whether anything could be done for the education of the native children in our foreign settlement, more or less carried on after the manner of Hongkong. These children are so far subject to our control as residing in our midst and influenced to no small extent by their surroundings. Our Municipal arrangements may have to do with the main with the orderly and sanitary condition of things in the settlement, and we have reason for thankfulness that they are well attended to in these respects, but it seems also that the other should not be left undone.

I merely call attention to this matter in the meantime, and shall be glad if any interest is awakened in regard to it. Much may be said on the subject, perhaps even in opposition to the scheme being one for

Municipal action, but it is now referred to with a view to obtain a consensus of opinion on the point.

I am, &c.,

WM. MUIRHEAD.

29th November.

A PLEA FOR UNITY.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—With reference to the remarks made at the meeting at the British Consulate yesterday, to the effect that the proposed local branch of the China Association would not interfere with the Chamber of Commerce, I would like to point out that hitherto any question regarding trade has always been treated as affecting the whole mercantile community, and through the Chamber all interests were represented. Now, if there is a branch of the China Association established here, restricted as it will be to British subjects, all questions relating to British interests will be communicated through that branch to the Association in London to be laid before the home government, and the Chamber will be left to deal with only those matters which affect other interests—if there are any which do not affect also the British—and to restrict their representations to the Ministers of other Powers. It appears to me that this will effectually do away with the Chamber, as it is not likely that British firms, who constitute by far the greater portion of the Chamber, will care to continue their membership under these circumstances. The result will be, for the first time, a distinct division of the interests of this community, a result greatly to be regretted.

I am, etc.,

* * *

29th November.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Your correspondent's letter which appears in this morning's paper under the heading of "A plea for unity" is, I am certain, unnecessarily apprehensive. The Chamber of Commerce here has done good work in the past and I have no doubt of its doing good work in the future when the occasion demands it, but there are matters so exclusively British that it would be inappropriate for a cosmopolitan Chamber such as ours to move in the usual course through the Doyen of the Diplomatic or Consular Body as the case may be.

I have in my mind's eye more than one occasion on which such a body as the China Association could have most usefully intervened in matters that it would be impossible for our Chamber to move in, and at the moment there is the question of the establishment of a gold standard for India being actively advocated, to the exclusion of any consideration for more Eastern dependencies or interests; a course which if established would in the belief of most people be fraught with mischief to the value of silver in the Straits and China. It must be patent that our Chamber could not with propriety act in a matter reflecting upon action in the exclusively British dependency of India, and yet it would in my opinion be wise for the local members of the China Association to consider seriously whether they should not urge the London executive to forcibly oppose any action such as is aimed at by interested Indian agitators. The China Association has in the comparatively brief period of its existence powerfully aided the aims of the Chamber of Commerce on more than one occasion, and I feel very certain that we can rely upon its doing so in the future.

I am, etc.,

A MEMBER OF THE CHAMBER.

1st December.

THE COLLISION IN THE INLAND SEA.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—I very much regret to inform you that the following telegram has just been received from the Company's Superintendent at Hongkong:—

"Agent at Hiogo telegraphs:—*Ravenna* reports having been in collision with Japanese cruiser in the Inland Sea, the latter sank immediately and the *Ravenna* sustained serious damage. The *Ravenna's* passengers have been transferred to the *Empress of Japan* proceeding to Shanghai."

The *Ravenna* was proceeding from Yokohama to Hongkong to connect there with the *Sutlej*, which takes the out-going mail.

I am etc.,

H. A. RITCHIE.

1st December.

P.S.—Apparently the passengers were transferred from one steamer to the other in the Inland Sea.

H. A. R.

Miscellaneous.

A TRIP UP THE POYANG.

By E. S. L.

We started, three of us, on our well-appointed house-boat at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 16th, from Kiukiang to make a journey up the Poyang lake. Our business was to preach the gospel and to distribute Scriptures and tracts. An account of the journey, a description of the features of the country, and the various incidents of the trip may prove not uninteresting to many of the readers of the *North-China Daily News*. We were two boat-loads of foreign preachers and native evangelists, and quite conspicuous wherever we went. The first night we made forty-five li down the river along a route well known to travellers by the river steamers. Not far below Kiukiang in the darkness of the night, we saw just ahead of us a native boat with a large light hung out just as we approached and apparently full of men. They hailed us to pull up; to this of course we paid no attention, whereupon they rowed to pull up alongside. There was no wind, and our heavy boat was forced ahead at a very slow rate by a couple of men forward at the yulohs. Hearing an altercation I went out and learning that the boat was filled with pirates I warned them off. Finding that they had to deal with foreigners and a foreign boat, and not a native boat as they had suspected, they made off for the shore and let us alone. This is the first experience of this nature I have met with so near an open port and the Chinese officials ought to look out for these enterprising subjects just under their very noses. These water thieves generally give foreign boats a wide berth: they know that foreigners generally carry fire arms with them and do not care to test the value of the prize at such a probable cost. They are apparently content to take a poorer and easier game.

Late in the evening we reached the mouth of a little stream where we anchored for the night. This is quite an important naval yard in a way. Here are made the scores and hundreds of small gun-junks which travel up and down doing river police duty, and which are found in every large and many small anchorages. At daylight the next morning, the 17th, we were off again and in a short time had covered the fifteen li that separated us from Hukow which is, as its name signifies, the mouth of the lake. The city is of *hsien* rank and is a poor affair all round. It is prettily situated and might be the centre of an immense trade. All the tea, paper and other merchandise from the south of the Province pass this place to Kiukiang and else-

where. It would be an immense saving of labour and time if this convenient spot were made the *entrepôt*. The mouth of the lake is here about the same width as the Yangtz river and is guarded on both sides by two forts mounted with foreign guns. The fort on the Hukow side was destroyed by lightning last year. The lightning, it was said, struck the magazine and blew it up, killing several persons. An investigation was held in due time and on the report of the Governor to the throne the official is charge was cashiered because he had not exercised proper vigilance.

It will be remembered that one of the native essayists recommended Hukow as the site of a great national naval yard; he advanced some strong arguments in support of his choice. Certainly there are facilities for just this kind of work. This place is the site of the summer residence of the late Pêng Yu-lin, the great Admiral of the Yangtze. A pile of white buildings situated on a great rock are visible to all who travel on the steamers. This Pêng was a great man in these regions, and was held in great dread. It was his custom in earlier days, when he was a sworn enemy to all opium sellers and smokers, to go around the cities he visited, in disguise, and when he had obtained such information as he wanted, he would commence a crusade against these same dealers. In his later days he apparently degenerated and it is said that his own guards at this very place indulged regularly in the pipe.

There is another common rumour in connection with the man and it is that he made a boast that he would cut off ten thousand heads. He was one of the privileged few who could take off a head at his pleasure and report it to Peking afterwards. He lost no time in getting to work and got, in due season, to the nine thousand, nine hundred and seventy-eighth, when there came to his ears the common talk of the people that he would die as soon as he had decapitated the ten-thousandth. This caused him to stay his hand, and in recent years he despatched but few to the other world, and finally died without quite reaching the goal set before himself.

After breakfast we went ashore and spent several hours preaching and selling Scriptures and tracts, disposing altogether of about three hundred copies. We had a better reception than I have ever before experienced at this place. When I returned to the boat I found the magistrate had sent his card down, so I went up to see him. At the *yamen* entrances crowds naturally collected around the foreigner and I waited while my card was being taken in. Soon the officer returned saying the "old gentleman" was busy, which meant that I could not be seen. But I did not intend to be thus publicly humiliated and snubbed. In a very few minutes news would have spread round the town and matters might have become unpleasant for us. I therefore told him to take the card back and state that I insisted on seeing him and since I had received his card I must be admitted to his presence. A third time the officer came back and I then advanced and told him that I insisted on his immediately returning and admitting me, that this treatment and this kind of politeness I had not been accustomed to. Upon this the large doors were thrown open and I had a very pleasant interview. The magistrate was a Hunan man and I did my best to enlighten him on many points. Soon after I left and he returned my call on my boat. He remained over half an hour chatting with us on religious and other subjects. I did my best with the official so that in future when he meets a foreigner he may treat him with respect and courtesy. I think he will. These officials travel all over the empire, never remaining long in any one place, so in influencing them one really influences vastly more than a single individual.

(To be continued.)

SKETCHES IN ENGLISH INK.

MY OLD MAIDS.

(Conclusion.)

Miss Matilda's reference to Miss Ellen and pink paper was not by any means a sore subject, though Miss Ellen seldom alluded to it, it being her one and only love affair, while Miss Emily had had more lovers than she could count, and Miss Matilda had the satisfaction of being engaged a short life-time. As a child Miss Ellen had been "sat on," and it was only since the death of Sister Fanny and dear Mother that she had to any extent "held her own." Many years ago she had paid a month's visit to London, returning to her home in the small country place more dignified, more refined, and somewhat self-possessed. She won the heart of a young farmer who watched her in church, as she sang in the choir, and though she was entirely unaware of the fact, it was with a flutter of proud delight that she received one morning a dainty note, written on "pink paper" with gilt edges, offering her his heart and hand. I have seen the note, and though I forget the words now, it reminds me of the lines:

"When in the church you kneel to pray,
Do not forget some words to say,
For those whom your enchanting face
Makes quite forget the sacred place,
In distant thoughts that wandering stray."

The letter, Miss Ellen's first and only love-letter, was duly taken to mother, and a suitable reply was dictated and sent to the young farmer, declining his hand and heart. "Far," said dear mother, "Ellen, my girl, you must look higher."

Unfortunately Miss Ellen had never seen the writer of the pink note, otherwise her spirit might have rebelled against mother's decision, and she might have become a happy wife. As it was she "looked higher," and was never aimed at, while she lived on imagining she loved her church admirer.

Miss Matilda's lengthy engagement had been cut off by the hand of death. Mr. Berson, a chronic consumptive subject, hoped for brighter days, clung to Miss Matilda, and died with his hand in hers. Sister Fanny and dear Mother declared it was the hand of Providence, and rebuked Miss Matilda for grieving; till she was obliged only to weep in her own room; and this I know she did till she was a very old woman, for I have seen her sob while the tears ran down her cheeks at the mere mention of her dead lover's name. It was many years before she followed him. Miss Emily died first from the after effects of the long ago tumour. Her burial was a never-to-be-forgotten incident in my life.

It was a wet afternoon and we stood around the grave listening to the service, when Miss Matilda suddenly discovered that the grave had been dug, as she termed it, "the wrong way," and that instead of lying side by side of either Sister Fanny, dear Mother, or even Father, "Emily's head touched Sister Fanny's feet."

The parson remonstrated and reminded Miss Matilda of the time and place, but the discovery affected Miss Ellen too, and they both insisted that the coffin should come up and the grave be dug anew. Again the parson pointed out that the path was in the way, and that as all the graves in the piece of ground owned by the sisters were "full," there was no help for it but to dig the last grave as it was. The service was continued, though almost drowned by both Miss Matilda's and Miss Ellen's threats to "report him to his Bishop."

The home of my old maids was entirely changed after the death of Miss Emily. Miss Mary Ann came more frequently, but failed either to cheer her sisters or help clear the air of its mournful strain, "I wish Emily were here."

Miss Ellen pined and sickened and died a year after. I was away at the time, though Ann told me "It's a great relief,

Miss Bessie, she never was no good in this world, poor girl," with a mournful shake of her head. Miss Matilda lived three years after her, alone and lonely in the old home, with only Ann for companion and Miss Mary Ann as a visitor. She died in the end simply from old age, and I doubt not had she smothered her pride as to her carpenter brother-in-law and gone to live with Miss Mary Ann she might have lasted many years longer. The old flint house—the cosy home—has long since passed into other hands, and except for the same flint walls and the same garden there is not one tangible recollection left of my old maids.

THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING OF RATEPAYERS.

(Contributed.)

In the event of the ratepayers, at the forthcoming annual meeting, resolving to adopt the proposed new regulations for the Local Post Office, the Chairman of the Council, in order to be consistent in pursuance of the reform policy, ought to deliver another speech, to something like the following effect:—

"Gentlemen, now since you have at our request, and in the interests of abstract justice, done away with the anomaly of a subscription Post Office, which admitted of people who did not pay taking advantage of it, I wish to invite your attention to another cognate and still more crying abuse. I refer to the fact that while the streets and roads of this settlement are made, maintained, watered, and lighted, at great expense, that expense is distributed amongst the ratepayers after a fashion which is outrageously unjust. We are informed that hundreds of walks are taken on our streets by people who never pay a cent towards the expense of them; while, on the other hand, property owners who may have never set a foot in Shanghai are made to pay heavily. Some gentlemen we could mention, who use these streets very little, are levied on for large amounts, while others, more particularly amongst the brokering fraternity, who are always on the rush, get off for an old song. The great hotels which are often crammed with an army of gad-about globe trotters, sightseers, and visitors, pay no more than some neighbouring hong which harbours but a few stay-in-door clerks. Gentlemen, we feel that these injustices have at length become unbearable, and we now propose that the expense of maintaining the streets and roads of this settlement shall, hereafter, be borne by those who use them, and in strict proportion to the amount of use they make of them. Indeed, I may say we are driven to take this step, for not a few of those gentlemen, who have paid most heavily towards this and other expenditure in the past, have given us to understand that, in the matter of streets and roads, they are not prepared to pay any longer a cent more than what they actually drive and walk for. It may not be easy for some of you to enter into the feelings of those who see and know they are paying for other people's convenience, but the Council can see there is a real grievance, and wish to remove it.

"I am glad to be able to inform this meeting that, through the invention of the self-acting, put-a-penny-in-the-slot, combined turnpike gate and weighing machine, it has now become an easy matter to collect all the revenue necessary for street maintenance and lighting from the people who use the streets, and in exact proportion to the amount of use they make of them. We propose to obtain a supply of these machines to place in our main thoroughfares. Their action is exceedingly simple. When a pedestrian, or conveyance, approaches one of these machines, it auto-

matically indicates his, or its weight, and then, according to the tariff to which it is set, a corresponding number of pennies must be put in the slot, when the gate flies open of its own accord, and shuts again. Of course, it is to be understood that, as in the case of the Post Office, the Council do not propose to make this new departure for the sake of revenue; they will be content to have the streets and roads self-supporting. It has, however, been by no means an easy task to calculate the tariff which it will be necessary to fix in order to bring about this result; but they think that if each pedestrian, on passing a gate, pays one penny for the first ten stone or under, and one penny more for each succeeding ten stone or fraction thereof; and each conveyance, one penny for the first five cwt. or under, and one penny more for each succeeding five cwt. or fraction, the desired end will be obtained. But should it at any time be necessary to alter the tariff, it can be easily done by simply re-adjusting the regulator of the machine.

"The Council are desirous that this meeting should adopt the proposal forthwith and that there should be no needless delay. The machines will take some time to make, and at the very earliest, even if there is no opposition, the plan cannot be put into operation before the 1st of January next. The pennies also must be specially made, and the Council are happy to state that the gentleman who furnished the highly artistic and pleasing designs for L.P.O. stamps (a voice 'squashed spiders') has again placed his services at their disposal.

"It is hard to see what objection can be brought forward against a proposal so eminently reasonable and just. Some people may complain that the weighing part of the business will be a nuisance, but I can assure them that, in the case of these automatic machines, there will be really far less trouble involved in getting weighed, than in weighing a letter for the L.P.O. Further, after a few times, a ratepayer will be able to remember his weight, and thus to place the correct sum in the slot without even having to look at the indicator; whereas the weighing of letters is a burdensome affair, and one which must always be very carefully seen to, or correspondents will blaspheme. It may be said that the having to keep a stock of pennies will be a great bother, but the same was asserted with regard to the L.P.O. stamps, and we know how foolish that objection was. The pennies will be really an improvement on the stamps, and there will be no nasty licking and sticking involved. Further, in a great many cases, they will be handed over to the native attendants, and thus give no trouble whatever. Provision will also be made for the case of those who may happen at any time to be absolutely penniless. They will not be compelled to stand in the street for the rest of their lives, as some have slanderously asserted; but the policeman on the beat will be authorised to pass them through, and to collect double rates when they arrive at their destination.

"In conclusion, I may say that this plan puts us all on the same footing. A penny ratepayer will no longer bear a grudge against a two-penny one; and there will be no possibility of evading payment on the part of any. It will remove a very real grievance. That of the subscribers to the L. P. O. was as nothing, compared with this one of making men who may never, or very seldom, use our streets pay for keeping them up. The L. P. O. subscription was voluntary, and if any one thought he was not getting his money's worth he was at perfect liberty to stop subscribing, and buy stamps, or borrow his neighbour's chit book. That neither the one nor the other was often done is proof that the arrangement suited. But this other is a tax, and compulsory; it ought to be abolished in favour of something less unjust; and I feel we can appeal with

confidence to the gentlemen who stopped the L. P. O. subscriptions to put an end to this also."

ON THE RESCUE OF SHIPWRECKED PERSONS BY THE PESCADORES ISLANDERS AS NARRATED IN THE FOREIGN NEWSPAPERS.

(Translated from the *Shenpao* of 9th November, 1892.)

The Pescadores Islands are Chinese soil and the inhabitants Chinese subjects. The P. & O. Company's steamer *Bokhara* and another company's steamer, the *Normand*, were both lost on the Pescadores. All those who were rescued by the fishermen of the islands when in great peril of life, appreciate their kindness and praise them highly. Thus it will be seen that gratitude for humane treatment is a deep sentiment in men's minds. Yesterday we read a translation of the account of this affair as given in the foreign newspapers. The account states that the survivors praise the Brigadier-General of the Pescadores who treated them as a father treats his sons, and also his underlings for their ready response to the humane purpose of the General. The shipwrecked persons state further that a poor priest cared for them to the extent of his resources; and that an old and a young man waded into the water which was up to their chests, regardless of the danger, and rescuing one person carried him to their house on the hill and there supplied him with wine and food. When he had sufficiently recovered his strength he was taken to the official *yamen* where he was given clothes, food and shelter. It is further related that the inhabitants of the island were all ready to offer whatever they had to accommodate the sufferers. Another person was washed ashore by the waves to the foot of a hill where the Chinese discovered him and, finding no food to give him, brought him back to the sea and swam with him to an inhabited place where he was provided with wine, food, tobacco, and clothes. Moreover there were inhabitants who even gave up their bed-rooms for the accommodation of the survivors. The circumstances of the generous treatment of the sufferers the said newspapers relate as though they could not possibly exhaust their feelings of gratitude, and the survivors who received such kindness will feel grateful for ever. Foreigners have been accustomed to say that the Chinese treat them badly; looking at the affair here related one can see whether they are treated badly or well. What caused these people to afford succour to the survivors and provide them with clothes and food in such a fraternal manner? And why did the servants of the Brigadier-General carry out so readily their master's orders to attend to the sufferers as related by foreigners? Because they all obey the will of the Government. The Chinese Government observes the maxim "Treat people from great distances with tenderness" as a principle, and so she regards the treaty Powers as though they and she were of the same family. Nevertheless the population of the Empire is so immense that the races and characters of the people naturally differ. Where there are good folks there are pretty certain to be some bad ones. For instance the creating of riots against churches and the spreading of false rumours are all the work of mischief-makers. However all the damage that the mischief-makers have done has been directed against China and not against foreigners at all. For the false rumours they invented were actually intended to rouse the resentment of foreigners so as to instigate the foreign Powers to wage war with China in the hope of profiting by the consequences. Foreigners whose churches were burned down and property destroyed have been fully recompensed by the Chinese Government according

to the amount claimed for the damage. Moreover all cases of riot since they began until the present time have been peacefully settled and the report of the death of a foreigner caused by injuries inflicted during a riot has been rarely heard of. In fact those who created riots merely brought death to themselves. However, foreigners who have no consideration for the circumstances would believe that all the people throughout China are bad. They seem to think that, because they find one Chinaman has done something wrong, all Chinese do bad deeds; and that because there is one bad man in China, all the Chinese are bad men. Such an opinion I (the editor) do not agree with at all. With regard to character or conduct, each individual has his own peculiarity, even brothers by birth, or father and son are unlike—for example, "Chih" and "Hui," brother of the same parents, differ from one another in character, nor do "Kuan" and "Yu," father and son, behave themselves similarly. Among every people in the world there are some good men and there must be some bad ones too, but certainly there is no such thing as that the whole population of a country should be bad. Even among foreigners there is also a distinction between good and bad people. All nations treat the Chinese according to the treaties existing between them and China without making any difference, except that of the United States which alone being unable to admit Chinese into her territory uses every endeavour to exclude and ill-treat them. Even up to the present time some oppressive laws are still enacted. That shows a difference. However, we do not consider that all foreigners treat Chinese in the same manner as that in which the United States Government treats them. As regards Mason who was caught supplying clandestinely to the rowdies or insurgents fire-arms which were seized just on the point of being smuggled, he was eventually found guilty, though the foreign officials leniently inflicted a light punishment upon him. We do not, therefore, reckon that every foreigner behaves in the same manner as Mason. It often happens that foreign seamen get drunk and create disturbances and whenever they are found disorderly they are arrested by the police. But we cannot assert on that account that every foreign seaman is a drunkard and a turbulent fellow. The inhabitants on the coast of China might be of a rather unkind disposition as has happened sometimes. They have seen a shipwreck, and not only have they given no assistance, but they have plundered the wreck and carried away their booty. This kind of people is detested not only by foreigners but by the Chinese as well. But, however, bad people of this kind are not found in every place in China. This has been proved by the inhabitants of the Pescadores who rescued the survivors of the *Bokhara* and the *Normand* from distress. I (the editor) dare say that the foreigners do not treat Chinese so generously as the Chinese treat them generally. This is not because the Chinese fear the foreigners' power and strength, but it is simply because the natural disposition and the good principles of the Chinese render them thus inclined. Formerly during the Franco-Chinese war when the French attacked our territory, all the foreigners residing in China were protected by the Chinese Government because it was only France who made war with China and it did not concern other nations. Moreover, all the French merchants and missionaries were under the same protection also, for they who had been long resident in China were supposed not to have combined with their Government to war with us. But France is a Republic and whether there shall be war or peace is to be decided by the people. From this, then who could tell that the French people residing in China had no connection with war? If we suspected

them at that time we should have driven them all out of China as quickly as possible in order to prevent their being spies: why, on the other hand, did we give them protection voluntarily? But the Chinese Government observed the principle of treating people from great distances with tenderness, and her ministers and generals obeyed the Imperial commands and thus willingly declined to treat foreigners as enemies. This is what Confucius says in the *Analects*:—"The relation between superiors and inferiors is like that between the wind and the grass. The grass must bend, when the wind blows across it." Then how dare the common subjects disregard the will of the Government? Hence the Chinese do now treat foreigners more generously than before, as in the case of the rescue of the shipwrecked persons by the Pescadores islanders, which is the occasion of special gratitude and praise from foreigners. But really before they praise the people of the Pescadores for their kindness shown to the survivors they should first praise the officials there and above all they should praise the Chinese Emperor. Formerly, before China was opened to foreign commerce, naturally the Chinese did not know the disposition of the foreigners, nor did foreigners know much of the Chinese. Now that there are foreigners who have been resident in China for many years, how can they still be ignorant of the Chinese disposition? Also there are many Chinese who know the disposition of foreigners. Gratitude and resentment are alike felt by Chinese and foreigners. Now the Americans treat the Chinese badly, yet the Chinese Government does not retaliate by issuing orders to drive them away from China at all, but even treats them as well as before. This is well known to the foreigners. As to the rescue from distress afforded by the Pescadores islanders, the Chinese look upon it as that which they ought to do by right, and it is nothing strange at all, but those foreigners who had received their kindness express their feelings of gratitude repeatedly and, besides, others who did not receive their kindness personally, praise them highly too. Then is there any difference between Chinese and foreigners in that general sentiment of pleasure in what is good and displeasure with what is bad?

THE GROUNDING OF H.B.M. SHIP PALLAS AND THE TUG SAMSON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

On Friday, the 18th instant, H.M.S. *Pallas* arrived at Anping, South Formosa, in response to a representation made by Mr. P. L. Warren, H. M.'s Consul for Taiwan, to the British authorities, in regard to the interment of the bodies washed ashore at the Pescadores from the *Bokhara*, and having communicated with the Consul by signal, proceeded on the following morning, after embarking that gentleman and Mr. Hastings, (both of whom it will be remembered were of the *Bokhara* rescue party who so courageously went off in that small steam tug or launch, the *Sin Taiwan*) to Makung, and other islands, where the bodies were found.

The s.s. *Thales* arrived at Anping from Amoy on the 19th, and sailed on her return voyage on the evening of Monday, the 21st. Four saloon passengers joined the ship at Anping, among whom were two from Shanghai. A steady N.E. gale was blowing at the time of departure, the barometer, then 29.70, was falling and there was every indication of a dirty night. This proved to be the case, for at dinner time, 7 p.m., glasses and crockery were flying about the saloon, and it was a difficult matter to either "sit tight," or walk about. Fortunately, Captain Bathurst was able in the thick weather to pick up East Island, and

Fisher Island light, about two miles from which, in Battery Bay, the ship anchored at 11.30 p.m.

The wind blew great guns on the following morning, and the barometer continued to fall, going down to 29.52. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon as the appearance of the weather was more threatening the Captain steamed to a snugger anchorage, Watering Bay, about two miles from which were observed through the thick driving mist H.M.S. *Pallas* and the Shanghai steam tug *Samson*, apparently at anchor.

To the astonishment of those on board the *Thales*, it was found on the following morning, that both the *Pallas* and the *Samson* were aground, and this was shortly afterwards confirmed by a request brought from the former ship, asking Captain Bathurst to be so good as to stand by for a telegram, as the *Pallas* might have letters or telegrams to forward. This was immediately and courteously acceded to. The wind had dropped by this time, and the air was bright and clear.

It appears that the *Pallas* grounded on Monday, the 21st, and that the *Samson* was employed in trying to tow her off, and in this she succeeded. When the *Pallas* floated, the *Samson* ran ashore, and both were hard and fast on Wednesday morning.

Both ships got afloat again by 1.30 p.m. and when the *Thales* left, after receiving despatches from the *Pallas*, they were engaged in picking up anchors, &c. As to the cause of the grounding of the man-of-war that seems inexplicable at present. No injury is believed to be sustained by either vessel, as they grounded on soft sand or mud.

The mission on which the *Pallas* was engaged was satisfactorily completed.

Amoy, 23rd November.

THE RECENT GALE IN THE YELLOW SEA.

In sending us the following report of the recent experience of the steamer *Wenchow*, Captain Robert A. Binns remarks that it shows what pluck will do in cases of emergency, and that a ship may be saved in the last extremity by letting go anchor at the risk of your life, when not doing it means losing the ship and lives as well. Captain Binns reports:—

The *Wenchow* left Newchwang on the morning of the 22nd Nov. in very unsettled weather, and with thick rainy weather until she had nearly run her distance to Chefoo Bluff, when, it being very dark and rainy and not having sighted anything, the ship's head was turned to the North, engines going slow, until just before day-break, when she was put on her course again. We just saw some land on our starboard bow which ought to have been the Bluff, but before making anything out, the late hard N.E. gale (the hardest I can remember) burst upon us, the sea getting up all in a minute. Got ship round head to it, and only just in time, as there came along three of the biggest seas I have ever seen on the coast, curling over. The *Wenchow* cleared the first, but the second broke on board, bursting in wheelhouse and captain's room, flattening bridge rails, and if it had not been for the foremast going down through the centre of the captain's room and the bridge being up against the mast, I think it would have swept the decks. As it was, it flooded the engineers' and officers' quarters down the mess room deck, damaging all clothes and effects, also flooded captain's room where everything moveable, such as charts, books, clothes, etc., was soon reduced to pulp. We then kept her head to sea as well as we could, but she was inclined to fall off now and again and carried away everything moveable off the decks, breaking steam pipes and bursting in chief officer's room, and gutting it and water closets, carrying away rails on starboard side and doing other

damage. As she was making such bad weather of it, and if the ship only fell off in the trough of the sea, it would have been the last of her, I decided as a last resource to let go an anchor if it could be done. The ship at this time was taking heavy seas over all, but much to the credit of the Chief Officer, Mr. Wm. Frazier, at the risk of his life he went forward and after many vain attempts managed to cut the lashings of the anchor and then the tackle falls. Then when the anchor was clear for letting go, the wheelchains carried away, but we managed to drop the anchor and paid out to 120 fathoms, as we could not bring up at less with the engines going all they could. That anchor letting go saved the ship, as if she had fallen off in the trough of the sea she would have been finished in a very short time. Too much praise cannot be given to Mr. Frazier for this, as it was blowing with typhoon force and the heaviest sea I have seen on the China coast, and also the most dangerous as shoal water seas curl and break so. The 2nd Officer, too, Mr. A. B. Rutherford, is deserving of all praise for his conduct on this occasion, as also the Engineers who kept the pumps going all the time and kept the ship clear of water in the holds. The barometer gave no warning of this very heavy gale, although I had my doubts of its bursting on the 4th day of the moon, the French barometer, varying from .765 to .770 and the aneroid 30°.40 to 30°.60. After letting go the anchor the ship rode it out; rolling frightfully and taking large seas over all.

On the morning of the 25th it moderated and, the engineers having temporarily repaired the steam-pipe, we were enabled to save the anchor and chain and run in a blinding snowstorm to Chefoo with the gale coming away from the N.W. We were laying to for 48 hours, cut and bruised, nothing to eat, and frozen up with the cold, and had a most miserable time of it as can well be imagined. On arriving at Chefoo everything was pure white, the hills being covered with snow to some depth, and the harbour full of shipping where they had not done anything for some days. There was such a heavy sea running round Chefoo Bluff where the steamers went for shelter, that some of them were rolling gunwales under, so you may imagine what the sea was outside. One barque, I hear, strained so much that she got four feet of water into her and was flying signals of distress. It is still blowing from N.W. with blinding snowstorms as I write this.

Chefoo, 26th November.

NOTES FROM NATIVE PAPERS.

Shên-pao.

UNEMPLOYED SOLDIERS.

Owing to the number of discharged soldiers having rapidly increased from the time of the Franco-Chinese war, there is quite a large army of them now in Foo-chow. The authorities do not regard this ever increasing army of unemployed braves as being favourable to the peace and good order of the place, and they are now trying to get rid of them. The Secretary of the military affairs of the province has issued a proclamation enjoining upon this class of inhabitants to depart from the place, and monetary assistance has been promised them so that those who have not the means to pay for their passage, may be provided with the necessary funds.

THE TREASURER OF ANHUI.

The Treasurer of Anhui left this port by the *Chueneco* on the morning of Wednesday.

THE PRIVATE SECRETARY.

An official in the department of the Shantung military affairs came near being robbed of a large amount of money by his secretary. The official despatched the latter with a petty officer and a small

guard of soldiers to the capital with the commission to draw a sum of money from the paymaster in that city. Having presented the papers and drawn the money the party commenced their homeward journey. In the middle of the journey the scribe revealed his intention to his companions, and proposed that they should appropriate the money and leave. This, however, the military gentlemen did not agree to do. Fearful of getting involved the officer betook himself to the capital and reported the matter. A party was forthwith sent in search of the absconding scribe, who after some difficulty was found, having already spent several hundred taels of his master's money. He is now in the hands of the authorities.

Law Reports.

H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, 29th November.

Before N. J. HANNEN, Esq., Chief Justice,
IN re THE WILL OF THE LATE EDWARD
NEWMAN.

This was an application that John Pender Wake and Edward Finch Ottaway, both of Chefoo, trustees of the will of Edward Newman, deceased, appointed by an order of the Court on 4th instant might be appointed trustees under the settlement for the purposes of the Settled Land Act 1882, and that the powers conferred upon a tenant for life by sections 3 to 13, and sections 16 to 20 of the Act might be exercised by them on behalf of Edward Francis Southan Newman and Ellen Eliza Maud Newman and George James Thomas Newman, during their minority.

Mr. H. S. Parkes made the application on behalf of Percy Francis Lavers, the guardian *ad litem* of the infants.

Mr. H. P. Wilkinson appeared for Annie Elizabeth Victoria Newman, and Edwin George William Sait, the other beneficiaries under the Will, and Mr. Harold Browett for the trustees.

All the parties concurring.

His Lordship made an order in the terms prayed for, giving the trustees authority to sell the estate—consisting principally of the Family Hotel at Chefoo—out of Court.

H.B.M.'s POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 25th November.

Before G. JAMIESON Esq., Assistant Judge.
R. v. O'SHEA.

The hearing of this case was continued to-day. Upon his Worship taking his seat, Mr. O'Shea said he thought his Worship remarked on the previous day that if it could be proved that the minute book was not delivered in Shanghai in the month the book apparently opened, he would be convinced that it was written up afterwards.

His Worship said that was not what he said. If Mr. O'Shea could show him that the book was not in the possession of the Club, when the first volume was taken out at the Bank in June, that might be different. The book was probably landed on the 1st or 2nd March, and it was not improbable that it was in the possession of Mr. Simoons on the 6th March.

Mr. O'Shea said he would convince his Worship that that was not the case.

Mr. H. Jorge, a Portuguese subject, employed at the French Bank, was then called. He said it was part of his duty to check the stationery. He remembered the six books arriving from France, but could not fix the date from memory.

Mr. O'Shea produced a delivery note from the Associated Wharves, dated 5th March.

His Worship remarked that this left it very much as it was before.

Mr. O'Shea pointed out that the 5th March was a Saturday.

His Worship said even if the minutes of the meeting of 6th March were written up on 7th, he should not consider it a serious departure from the truth, Mr. Costa stating that the minutes were written up directly afterwards. What Mr. O'Shea had now shown did not amount to proving that the books were fabricated all at one time for the purposes of this case.

Mr. O'Shea said that was what he believed.

Mr. John Webster was recalled and cross-examined. He said he kept the Bar Account and Cash Book from the commencement, from slips handed him by Mr. Riveiro, the Treasurer. Witness went through the accounts and explained how they were compiled. He said that the dinners and suppers entered in the book were generally supplied by one of the founders, who was paid. Sometimes they were bought from one of the Chinamen who hawked about the streets.

Mr. O'Shea—Sometimes one of these travelling Chinese restaurateurs supplied these Barmecide feasts (A laugh).

Witness continuing said he considered himself a Portuguese subject, although he was not registered at the Portuguese Consulate. He was born in Hongkong, but went to Macao when he was about four years of age.

His Worship said if the witness had taken no steps to have himself naturalised he should regard him as a British subject.

Mr. James Francis Woodford was next examined. He said he was a British subject, and joined the Club in February. He was proposed by Mr. Machado of the New O. B. C. He went into the Club and was asked to become a member. He frequented the Club, and about four or five days after got a letter to say he was elected a member. He had played before his election. He did not see any books or papers in the Club, and had frequently asked for them. The principal attraction at the Club was the playing of *kobachao*. Later on he saw some newspapers there, but never any books. He had asked repeatedly for books. He went to the Club nearly every night. On Saturdays he went there at about three o'clock in the afternoon, and on other days after dinner. As a rule he remained there very late, on three or four occasions till morning, and sometimes, going there on Saturday, he did not go home till Sunday night. Several others remained there under similar circumstances. At times the room was very crowded with players, and particularly at the beginning of the month. Witness never paid any subscription, and only paid for drinks, which were very cheap, the same as on the Yang-king-pang. When remaining very late he sometimes got food from the founders, consisting of bread and butter, and some cold meat. Very often he had a Chinese delicacy, the foreign name of which was "raw fish soup" (laughter). It was brought to the Club by a Chinese hawk, between midnight and one o'clock in the morning. The bankers during *kobachao* generally were Mr. Pereira, Mr. L. Xavier, Mr. A. F. d'Almeida, Mr. Costa, Mr. M. G. de Souza, and Mr. F. X. Rozario. The one with most capital was generally banker, and the founders as a rule backed the banker.

His Worship—Has the banker any advantage?

Witness said he had a good deal. If the banker had the best cards he swept the board, if his cards were equal to another player the banker won.

Witness proceeded to illustrate how *kobachao* was played, remarking that he was "not very expert."

His Worship—Probably good enough for us (laughter).

After the illustration,

His Worship said that the banker evidently had a very great pull.

Witness further illustrated how in the shuffling of the domino-shaped pieces of wood a banker could defraud the players. In the Club some of the members were known as champion players, who staked and won a good deal, amongst them being Mr. Costa, Mr. J. R. Xavier, Mr. Lorenzo Xavier, Mr. E. F. Pereira, and Mr. A. F. d'Almeida. A term frequently used in the Club was *ching-cha* meaning "stuffing," and it was applied to the amount which a member might put in an envelope, and stake upon the game. Some of the members were also regarded as "good throwers of dice," and a man who could "throw dice well," would have an advantage in the selection of the pieces of wood with which *kobachao* was played. Some of the players also had their own dice. Mr. F. X. Rozario of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. played at the Club very often. Witness never knew him to play for small amounts. He had seen Mr. Ozorio win from \$5 up to \$100 in a couple of days, and one night he saw him lose \$70. Witness had seen Mr. M. G. de Souza play to win or lose from \$5 up to \$100. He saw Mr. A. F. d'Almeida lose over \$100. He had seen Mr. E. F. Pereira losing, but he (Pereira) won more than he lost at the end. Witness called more than \$5 heavy play. One night in April or May he had some \$10 or \$15 belonging to himself, and about \$50 and Tls. 7 belonging to his employer, Mr. Lewis Moore. He went to the Club that evening, and he remembered seeing Mr. Lorenzo Xavier, Mr. M. G. de Souza, Mr. Ozorio, and Mr. Pereira, who were either bankers or backing the bank. He played *kobachao* for about an hour, and lost all the money he had. Before playing he had two or three drinks, which made him dizzy, but not drunk. After losing all his money, he stayed for a while and then left. Mr. Moore asked him about the money the next day, and witness tried to conceal the fact from him. Then witness spoke to his brother, who was managing the Club bar. His brother promised to replace the money during the day, but did not succeed. Witness then told the truth to Mr. Moore, who said he must leave the Club, or he would be prosecuted. If witness left the Club Mr. Moore said he would not prosecute him, as he was a married man. The next morning witness told his brother, who again said he would try to make arrangements for the repayment of the money. About two hours after, witness received a letter from Mr. Costa, expelling him from the Club, without giving any reason. Half an hour after, witness's brother came, and made arrangements with Mr. Moore's compadore for the money to be repaid in monthly instalments. Up to that time he had been on very good terms with the members of the Club. Witness now owed his compadore about \$400. He had lost on the whole about \$250 or \$300 at the Club. He never heard any singing at the Club, and it was in fact *kobachao* playing "morning, noon and night." Witness was surprised to see the articles in the *Mercury*, and did not know they were coming out. Since their publication he had been shunned by the members of the Club, and had received an anonymous threatening letter. Up to the time the articles appeared he had given no information to the *Mercury*.

At this stage there was some discussion as to the length of the adjournment.

Mr. Drummond pointed out that the Show was to take place the next day (Saturday), at which his Worship was also a Judge.

Mr. O'Shea—That is another kind of poultry show (a laugh).

The case was eventually adjourned until Monday morning.

28th November.

The hearing of this case was resumed to-day. Upon his worship taking his seat,

Mr. Drummond Hay, General Manager of the *North-China Daily News*, was called. In reply to Mr. O'Shea, he said that the Club Liberal had never subscribed to the *North-China Daily News*, and had never paid any sums for it.

Mr. O'Shea—They have an entry dated 8th August of a payment of \$8 to your office, is that true?

Witness—No, I have looked through our books, and there is no such amount there. We never received the amount from them in any way. One of the persons mentioned in this case, J. C. S. Nunes, was employed in our office as clerk.

Mr. O'Shea—Is he still in your employ?

Witness—I gave him a month's notice of dismissal, and he bolted immediately afterwards. He is in debt to the compadore. In answer to further questions witness gave particulars of the salaries of some of the compositors in the office.

Cross-examined by Mr. Drummond—He had not brought any books with him, but had carefully gone through them, and was certain that the name of the Club Liberal did not appear in any of the books as a subscriber. If he had signed any receipt for \$8, it must have been through fraud on the part of Nunes in some way.

Mr. Drummond produced a receipt marked with a number, dated 5th August, and for Tls. 6.

Witness said that the body of the receipt "Club Liberal, etc." was in Nunes' writing, the signature was that of witness. He had no recollection of giving the receipt, and asked permission to refer to the books again. When anyone subscribed to the paper a wrapper was printed immediately, and there was no wrapper bearing the name of the Club Liberal. Before leaving, Nunes had destroyed a lot of wrappers which had been issued.

Mr. Woodford, again entered the witness-box and was further examined. He said that on the occasion he sat heavily at the Club he spoke about it so that everyone could hear. He spent all Saturday night and Sunday at the Club, leaving on Sunday evening. He slept on the verandah as well as he could. Witness described the furniture in the Club and said that the bar was bought at auction for Tls. 0.25. It was a kitchen dresser. There were eight or ten bamboo stools or benches, worth about Tls. 0.50. Altogether the whole furniture was not worth more than \$30. The proposal in the minutes that the furniture should be insured for Tls. 400 was "all moonshine," and simply absurd. Before joining the Club witness played *kobachao* at Mr. J. R. Xavier's house in Boone Road. Mr. F. X. Machado had said he had only played *kobachao* once, but witness had seen him act as banker on no fewer than six occasions.

Mr. Drummond Hay re-called, produced books showing that in the "Petty receipts" book there was an entry of \$8 from the Club, but it had not been given to the compadore for collection, and did not appear in the Cash Book. Such an item should never have been put in the Petty receipts book, and it could only have been done to conceal it.

His Worship remarked that considering Mr. Nunes' relation to the Club, the presumption was that having got the receipt, and got the money he handed the receipt to the Club.

Mr. Woodford, resuming his evidence, was cross-examined by Mr. Drummond. He said he was born in 1858 at Singapore, and was partly educated in Hongkong. He began business in Singapore and went to Hongkong.

Mr. O'Shea objected to the history of the witness being gone into from the cradle.

Mr. Drummond contended he was entitled to cross-examine a witness who had come and given the lie direct to so many others.

His Worship allowed the question.

By Mr. Drummond—Then you got into trouble at Hongkong?—Never.

Nor in Singapore?—No.

Then you went to Amoy and were there some years?—No.

And you took service in an English man-of-war?—I did, not from Amoy.

Then you went to England?—Yes. And from London I went to Manchester and took employment.

And then you got into trouble?—I did.

You were imprisoned for six weeks for stealing?—I was charged in conjunction with another man. I was put in for three months, but did not serve my time.

One of your father's friends interested himself for you and got you pardoned?—No, he proved that I was innocent.

That is what you think?—And I can prove it. I was in prison about one month and eight days, and it was shown that the other man had done it. At first the other man got away, but he was brought back, and there was a new trial, at which witness was released. From Manchester I went to London where I was employed for two years under Government at the Thames Police Court. I could not have got such employment if I had a bad character. I left London, and went to Hongkong, and Singapore, where I was again in Government service.

Why did you leave?—I left there to go to Kobe. My father sent for me as he said I would do better in Japan.

In Kobe you had some trouble with your father?—There were some words, I was against his keeping a woman. That is what all people in Japan do, and I was against it. I came back to Shanghai about three years ago, and after some employment in the Chartered Mercantile, and the Chartered Banks, I was engaged by Mr. Lewis Moore, with whom I have been over two years.

Witness, continuing, said that he could not recollect the names of those who had gambled, beyond those he had already mentioned. They knew very well that they had gambled and that what he had said was the truth. If the members of the Club only told the truth they would corroborate what he had said. He had tried to get the servants of the Club to come and give evidence. They had promised to do so, and had attended at the Court early in the case, but they had since vanished. Witness's own richa coolie was formerly a servant of the Club, and when it appeared that he would have to give evidence he suddenly bolted.

Upon the resumption after tiffin,

Mr. Drummond said that in consequence of the evidence of the last witness he had made enquiries, and found that the servants of the Club had not left Shanghai, indeed two of them were now in attendance and could be called.

Mr. O'Shea said he should not call them until he had seen them, as they had now heard the story they had to meet, and had had every opportunity of being coached.

Mrs. Estephania Webster, wife of John Webster, was then called. She said she had been married seven years, and had two children living. She came to Shanghai from Hongkong in November last year. Her husband was in the employ of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., of Shanghai, at a salary of Tls. 50.

Mr. Drummond protested against questions being asked concerning family affairs which had nothing to do with the Club.

Witness said that her husband had told her that he was in the habit of going to the Club Liberal, and had not given her sufficient money to keep her.

His Worship said that he did not think the witness' evidence concerned the case. He was quite prepared to admit that Webster had treated her badly, but Webster might have spent his money in fifty other ways.

Mr. F. A. M. d'Almeida, employed by Mr. Geo. McBain, said his brother A. F.

d'Almeida was a member of the Club Liberal. His brother was now in the hospital suffering from paralysis. His brother had frequently told him that he had gambled at the Club, and had been there all day, on Sunday. He used also to give money to witness in payment for his board saying that it was what he won at the Club. Witness produced a copy of the *N. C. Daily News* containing an advertisement dated 7th March, from the Portuguese Consulate, referring to certain gambling houses being carried on, and warning people of the law upon the subject. It also stated that there was a certain document at the Consulate for the inspection of the nationals. Witness produced a copy of this latter document, which he considered referred to this Club Liberal, but not by name. He was of opinion that the *Mercury* articles had done some good, and he believed they were true from what his brother told him.

Sergeant Tilzey, of the Municipal Police, said that during August last he had occasion to be on duty in the Chapoo Road. He saw rickshas outside the Club from about midnight till five o'clock in the morning. He went down the alleyway and heard a number of voices in the Club, and was under the impression that gambling was going on. This state of things he noticed during the month of August.

After some discussion upon procedure, His Worship said that if any more evidence were to be produced he should like it directed to the assertions of unfair play and cheating. That there had been gambling going on in the Club he had not the faintest doubt.

Mr. O'Shea—I submit that I did not say that there was cheating.

His Worship pointed out that the alleged libels said: "where gambling is carried on and where professional gamblers exercise their skill."

Mr. O'Shea argued that that did not mean cheating.

His Worship said that the alleged libels referred to "gambling hells" and "professional gamblers." That meant that there were professional men who made their living out of the profits of gambling. So far as the evidence went he did not think that had been made out. A good many statements that had been made were justified, fully justified, but these two he did not think were.

Mr. O'Shea suggested he would call expert evidence as to the meaning of the words. He disowned any intention to insinuate that there was cheating. The words "gambling hell" were not libellous as the Chief Justice distinctly said during the application in Chambers.

His Worship said that the innuendo of the prosecution was that the articles meant that the Club was frequented by card sharps who made a living by it. He did not think that the articles necessarily meant that. If Mr. O'Shea would be content to take a decision now, he (his Worship) was prepared to give it now.

Mr. O'Shea said he would prefer an adjournment for the day. There was another point to be considered, and that was whether Mr. Drummond had proceeded against the right person. He (the defendant) had been at a great disadvantage all along on account of the sudden illness of his legal adviser, Mr. Stokes, and this important legal point had only recently been brought to his knowledge. He had no wish to shirk any responsibility, but the point was important.

Mr. Drummond remarked that the objection should have been raised earlier.

Mr. O'Shea—But then we should not have known so much about the Club Liberal.

His Worship thought the point should have been raised earlier.

Mr. O'Shea contended that the advertisement in the *Mercury* signed by Mr. Clarke, saying that during his absence Mr. O'Shea

would have charge of the business, did not bind him (Mr. O'Shea) and moreover he did not see it before it appeared.

Mr. Drummond again said it was too late for such an objection.

His Worship said Mr. O'Shea was in charge of the paper, was Editor, and had the responsibility for all the articles.

Mr. O'Shea—There has been no proof of publication by me at all. I was not consulted about that advertisement at all. Proceeding, Mr. O'Shea pressed for an adjournment to enable the point to be considered.

The case was accordingly adjourned for the day.

29th November.

The hearing of this case was resumed and concluded to-day. Upon his Worship taking his seat,

Mr. Drummond said he had referred to authorities upon the point of procedure, and he found that when it was decided that the case should be dealt with summarily, neither the prosecution nor defendant had the right of summing up upon the evidence. With regard to the point of liability, it was laid down by Odger that the proprietor, editor, printer, and publisher of a paper containing a libel were liable together or separately; and it was also laid down that all who were accessory to the libel were liable to be indicated as principals.

His Worship remarked that any assertions the defendant had to make must be purely by way of evidence.

Mr. Drummond—Yes, and subject to cross-examination in the usual way. Counsel proceeded to point out that the extract from the *North-China Herald* relating to the tables found at the house on the Soochow Road, with which Mr. E. F. Pereira was connected, was put in for the purpose of supporting the paragraphs in the *Mercury* about cheating.

Mr. O'Shea—That is a comment on the evidence, and I object.

His Worship said that those tables were not in the Liberal Club. He asked the defendant whether he had anything to say.

Mr. O'Shea said he thought he was entitled to contend that it had been proved to be a gambling house.

His Worship repeated that any statement Mr. O'Shea wanted to make must be on oath. If he wished to go into the box he could do so.

Mr. O'Shea wanted to show that the use of the words "gambling hell" was not libellous. He submitted the case should be dismissed. The plaintiffs came to Court to clear their characters from a charge of gambling and had failed.

His Worship said they had proved the publication of certain articles, and it was for the defendant to prove they were true, because if they were not true they were libellous.

Mr. O'Shea—My plea is justification throughout.

His Worship said he was prepared to admit that if the libels were true, publication was for the public benefit. He did not want any legal argument upon the evidence as it stood.

Mr. O'Shea said he wanted his Worship to refer to some dictionaries to see that "gambling hell" meant a place where gambling was carried on. In common newspaper parlance that was the case also, as in such instances as Monte Carlo, which was called a "hell."

His Worship said that that was so, but Monte Carlo and such places were maintained by proprietors who kept a bank against all comers and made their profits out of the earnings of the bank.

Mr. O'Shea urged that it meant a gaming house.

His Worship remarked that surely Mr. O'Shea would not contend that the Shanghai Club was a "hell" because some members indulged in whist.

Mr. O'Shea said that Odger had been quoted from to show that the proprietor, editor, printer and publisher were liable to be sued separately. He (Mr. O'Shea) was neither the one nor the other.

His Worship said that the defendant had assumed the position of editor.

Mr. O'Shea said he had not. With regard to the advertisement in the *Mercury* signed by Mr. Clark in September, saying that during his "temporary absence Mr. Henry O'Shea will sign all accounts in connection with the *Shanghai Mercury* and have general charge of the business," he (Mr. O'Shea) wished to say that he was not consulted about it, and it referred only to the business and job-printing, and not to the editorial department, which was quite different.

His Worship said that if the defendant wished to say anything he must go into the witness-box and be sworn.

Mr. O'Shea, then went into the witness-box, was sworn, and said—I am simply a contributor. I am paid for my contributions. I was the editor and partner, but that legal agreement terminated a year ago, and there has been no agreement since. I have other business to do, and the *Mercury* is only one. Mr. Drummond might as well sue any of the other contributors, such as Mr. Kingsmill. That advertisement simply says I would sign accounts to oblige Mr. Clark. I am not Mr. Clark's agent or attorney. Mr. Drummond has been suing the wrong man. The business is distinct from the editorial. I was not consulted about the advertisement. If Mr. Drummond had asked me whom to sue I would have told him, but he never asked me. Mr. Drummond assumed I was editor because it was in an old Hong-list. During Mr. Clark's absence I signed the accounts and looked after the job-printing, and wrote what I thought proper and sent in my contributions.

His Worship—Did you superintend the editing of the paper?

Witness—No, Mr. Clark's attorney looked after that. Mr. Clark's attorney was responsible.

His Worship—You say you are not the editor?

Witness—I am not; not now.

His Worship—Were you on the 15th September?

Witness—No, I was under no agreement or arrangement.

His Worship—You had no agreement; but as a matter of fact, did you superintend the editing of the paper?

Witness—I gave them what I thought was proper. I wrote my work at home and sent it along, and I looked after the job-printing with reference to the business department. Mr. Clark always retains the editing. It has not been proved that I wrote, printed, or published these articles, and I raise this as a legal point.

Mr. Drummond—Did you come out here under an agreement with Mr. Clark?

Witness—I did not.

Mr. Drummond—In what way did you come to Shanghai?

Witness—I did not come to Mr. Clark. Mr. Drummond—Then in what way did you come?

Witness—You know very well.

Mr. Drummond—I want a plain answer?

Witness—I came for somebody else.

Mr. Drummond—Well tell us.

Witness—It has nothing to do with this case.

Mr. Drummond—It is exactly what you put all the other witnesses to.

Witness—I came out in 1886 for the *North-China Daily News*.

Mr. Drummond—When did you leave the *North-China Daily News*?

Witness—I cannot fix the date. I think I went to Mr. Clark about three years and nine months ago.

Mr. Drummond—You entered Mr. Clark's service in what capacity?

Witness—As general assistant in his business. Not as editor.

Mr. Drummond—In the agreement you were not named as editor?

Witness—I cannot speak with reference to the agreement without consulting it. I went to assist Mr. Clark in the reporting chiefly. Mr. Clark had not a shorthand writer.

Mr. Drummond—Were you not appointed sub-editor in the agreement, and paid as such?

Witness—I cannot really say what were the words in it without looking at the agreement. I think I was sub-editor. I will not swear that I was sub-editor, but that is my impression. I really think this evidence should have been given before. It is not evidence for the prosecution.

His Worship—If you had not gone into the box you would have been all right. You must answer any question.

Witness—Oh, I don't mind; my hands are clean.

Mr. Drummond—What salary did you get there?

Witness—I really don't think this concerns the case. I did not give all my time to Mr. Clark. I got \$200, and I had other work besides.

Mr. Drummond—At that time you had to do the principal part of the reporting for the paper.

Witness—Yes. I think my agreement was for a year or two, I cannot say.

Mr. Drummond—Was your agreement renewed after that?

Witness—Yes, before the expiration, for a year or six months.

Mr. Drummond—And that has expired?

Witness—That expired nearly a year ago.

Mr. Drummond—And has it been renewed again?

Witness—No, I would not renew it, and neither would Mr. Clark.

Mr. Drummond—During this period, from the time you first entered Mr. Clark's office up to this time, have you ever ceased for any period to be in his service?

Witness—Yes, for a long time.

Mr. Drummond—That was during a trip to the north?

Witness—During several trips away.

Mr. Drummond—At present you are employed on the *Mercury*?

Witness—As a contributor,—the largest contributor.

Mr. Drummond—And what salary do you get from Mr. Clark now?

Witness—We have no agreement. There is no salary fixed.

Mr. Drummond—Are you sure of that?

Witness—I am certain.

Mr. Drummond—What pay do you get?

Witness—Our accounts are not settled.

Mr. Drummond—There is no fixed salary?

Witness—I draw \$250 a month.

Mr. Drummond—Why did you not state that first?

Witness—Because it does not state the answer correctly.

Mr. Drummond—Since you first joined Mr. Clark your brother has come out and taken the position as reporter?

Witness—You can see.

Mr. Drummond—Is that so?

Witness—I think it is patent.

Mr. Drummond—I want a plain answer.

Witness—It is so.

Mr. Drummond—Has your brother come out and taken over the reporting department of the paper, since you joined Mr. Clark?

Witness—He has not.

Mr. Drummond—Has he joined the staff of the paper?

Witness—Yes.

Mr. Drummond—During Mr. Clark's absence in Chefoo last September you were in Shanghai, were you not?

Witness—Yes, I used to go into the *Mercury* office every day.

Mr. Drummond—Who is the editor of the paper?

Witness—Mr. Clark.

Mr. Drummond—And who is acting-editor during his absence?

Witness—Mr. Clark's attorney or his agent.

His Worship—Who is that?

Witness said that he thought there was no necessity to mention the name. It was stated in a private letter written by Mr. Drummond.

His Worship—I think you must give the name.

Witness—He is Mr. Clark's nephew-in-law.—Mr. Ballard.

His Worship—And acting-editor of the paper?

Witness—Yes, he comes into the office.

Mr. Drummond—Is he a journalist?

Witness—As much a journalist as many other men who call themselves journalists, who are lawyers. I know he has written, and has acted as editor of the paper. All this would have been saved if Mr. Drummond had gone to work and proved it in a legal way.

Mr. Drummond—Mr. Ballard is a mercantile man engaged in business?

Witness—Engaged in many ways.

Mr. Drummond—You consider yourself a trained journalist?

Witness—A plain unvarnished journalist.

Mr. Drummond—A trained journalist?

Witness—Yes.

Mr. Drummond—Now you have seen the paragraphs that were published in the paper on 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th September. Do you remember the paragraph on the 14th, referred to in this case?

Witness—Yes, I have seen it before, several times.

Mr. Drummond—Did you see that paragraph before it was published? Now you are on your oath.

Witness—You put me in the box as a newspaper editor, and I decline to answer.

Mr. Drummond—You put yourself there. Did you see the paragraph?

Witness—I decline to answer.

His Worship said that he thought that *prima facie* Mr. O'Shea was responsible.

Witness—I say I am not responsible. I was not the editor. They were published with the authority of the editor. People on newspapers are not supposed to disclose the names of correspondents. I do not decline the responsibility, I raise this as a legal point. There is not one iota of evidence that I am editor, printer or publisher, or proprietor. Mr. Drummond wrote me a letter, and I never answered it, because I knew he was wrong. I owe Mr. Drummond an apology for not answering his letter.

Mr. Drummond—I don't want it, I prefer not to have it. You have gone about trying to recklessly ruin as many people as you could.

His Worship said he was satisfied that Mr. O'Shea was responsible.

Mr. Drummond—I ask that it should be put a stop to; it is scandal going on further.

Witness—It is not a scandal; it is a scandal for a lawyer not to know his business. Mr. Drummond has before now asked me to puff him in the *Standard* and the *New York Herald* as the only authority upon China,—as the man-behind-the-door, who knows all about China. I would not do it, and Mr. Drummond will not deny it.

Mr. Drummond—This is simply aggravating the offence; it is simply wasting time.

His Worship—I assume there is no more evidence.

Mr. O'Shea (who had resumed his place at the table)—Cannot I say anything upon the point of "gambling hell" being a justifiable expression?

His Worship—I think where plain ordinary English is used I must be the judge.

Mr. O'Shea—We have proved the *gravamen* of the charge.

His Worship in giving judgment said.—As I said last night, I think the charges of gambling in this Club have been made out. I think that looking at the whole circumstances surrounding the commencement of this Club, and the method of its being carried on, that I am satisfied in my mind that the intention of these so-called Founders was to have a place where they could indulge their disposition for gaming. Eight men, I do not say they were all equally bent upon gambling, but some of them were, and I think these eight men put their heads together and said "We will start a place where we and other Portuguese, who wish to go, can have an opportunity of playing as much as we please." For that purpose they hired a house down an alleyway—a semi-Chinese house it has been described as—and they commenced it by buying a few chairs and stools. One of them sends in a couple of green tables, and another sends a couple of couches, as they are called, or an easy chair and a couch, which appear to be cane couches of no great value, and they get a bar and they put a small stock of wines and liquors in that. Now looking at their own cash-book, it is plain that practically from the very first day it was opened gaming went on at this Club, and the fees are called table-fees, which it is admitted were the proceeds of gambling. Looking at the cash-book you will see that practically every day, and month after month, these fees were received and the gaming went on. I am bound to say that it does seem to me that at all events one of the objects these Founders had was to provide a quiet place where they might be allowed to gamble. They retain in their own hands the right of saying who shall come and go; they apparently have the power to admit a man, and they admitted some without making any entry in their minute book about it, and expelled one man without giving him any reason why, and I suppose what they can do in one case they can do in any other cases. The only *bond fide* transaction in the whole thing seems to be the subscription to the *Shanghai Mercury*. Almost everything else is tainted with something of discredit. Even the book they keep the minutes in was abstracted—I will not use any harsher term—from the office of one of the Founders' employers. The subscription to the *Daily News* was a somewhat dubious transaction, and altogether the whole surroundings are such that I do think it might fairly be entitled a gambling place, and not a place of credit to the Portuguese community. On that question, I think Mr. O'Shea has quite justified his case. I think it was a house kept open, as the evidence of the police shows, to all hours of the morning and in which were noises of gaming, and shouting, and lights burning and richias standing round about the door to all hours. That is not the sort of place that ought to be supported, and I think Mr. O'Shea was quite justified in calling public attention to it. It seems to me to be fully justified, but, at the same time I am bound, of course, to scrutinise carefully what he said about it. He must not say more about it than what the facts of the case justify, and although I think, in the main, he has shown sufficient reason,—indeed from the plaintiffs' own version of the case, I could have almost come to the same conclusion—for calling public attention to it, and provided he has used no language more severe and more censorious than what is justified, then he would be quite right. I will just look through what he has said about it, and see to what extent the facts bear out the things he has said. On 14th September he says "Gambling houses kept and frequented by certain Portuguese in Hongkew." I think that may pass. "These disgraceful and dangerous dens." Now, I think a house that is

kept open till three, or four, or five o'clock in the morning, and that is a nuisance to the neighbourhood, and one complained about, is disgraceful. And as to its being dangerous, I have said it is a place for gambling. Now the plaintiffs, the members of the Club, endeavoured to show that, although there was gaming going on, it was for small stakes. And they said they never staked more than forty cents or a dollar, and they wished to convey the impression that they were strong enough to resist temptation, and if they lost a dollar they would be quite content, and stop playing. Well what I say is, that it was a place where there was the opportunity and temptation to gamble. Facilities were given for gambling; young men were got in there and introduced there, and tables were ready for them, and there was every temptation to play, and I think when young men get together and get playing at a game till two or three in the morning, they are better men than I take them for if they can stop when they lose a dollar; and to that extent I think the use of the word dangerous was justified. It was a dangerous place for young men; it was a place where I do not doubt they did gamble. "In the evenings filled with young Portuguese gambling for all they are worth, and for a good deal more besides." They did gamble, and I do not doubt that some got into debt thereby. The language does not amount to anything more than that. "He (meaning Mr. Valdez, the Portuguese Consul General) knows where the dens are very well, one is the so-called Liberal Club;" "a list of the frequenters (meaning thereby that the place is a common gaming house)." I do not think "a list of the frequenters" does mean that it is absolutely a public place. They have a list of some fifty or sixty honorary members, and these are the frequenters. Then on the 16th of September "the Portuguese gambling hell." I think that expression is not borne out by the facts of the case, and in that particular instance I think he has exceeded what the facts justify. Then we have "a list of Lusitanian hidalgos." That I think I may pass over; I do not know what "hidalgo" means.

Mr. O'Shea—It means a nobleman.

His Worship—Then on the 16th September, "the very constitution of the Club makes it pretty evident where the profits were expected to come from." I think the constitution of the Club does make it evident. The monthly fees were \$8, to be paid only by the eight men who founded the Club, and they evidently expected to make money out of the others in some way or other. There is one other item which I wish to point out, and that is the monthly entry in the cash book for dinners and suppers. In examining the cash book I see all the profits practically went in dinners and supper, and these dinners and suppers were supplied by one or other of the Founders. The only meaning I can attach to that was that the Founders practically said "Don't go away; don't stop the game; we will send for something to eat, and we will pay for it." It was an additional inducement to stay on, and go on with the game. In what other Club in the world would Founders give private dinners and suppers to the members? They had some object in it, and I can see no other than that they wished them to stay. I have gone through the cash book month by month, and all the spare money practically has gone in dinners and suppers.

Mr. Drummond—They made no money out of it.

His Worship—Then we come to the other matter to which I made reference last night, "professional gamblers." I can hardly call these members professional gamblers, nor did they keep a "hell." These are really the two points on which I think Mr. O'Shea has gone beyond his duty as a journalist, and said things about them that he ought not to

have said. But on the whole he was fairly entitled to call notice to this institution, I think, and this being in the form of a criminal suit, I am entitled to take into account his object in doing so. If it were a civil suit for damages his object would be immaterial, but when they seek to impose a fine upon him it is quite pertinent to the point, his object in doing so. If it could have been shown that he bore any malice against the Club as a whole, or any members in particular, and wished to do them harm, then it would be too grave a matter for a fine. If he simply did what he conceived to be his duty to the public and called attention to a dangerous and objectionable institution, and one which was working harm, then I think his object was a good one, and the fine ought to be light.

Mr. Drummond—There has been no evidence given of his object; a newspaper is a commercial institution run for money.

Mr. O'Shea objected to the interruption.

His Worship—His object to me is quite apparent, and I think a journalist in a place like Shanghai is quite within his right in calling attention to anything which is a danger to the community. There are a number of young men here, employed in offices, some of them more or less in positions of trust, and if he has information that such a house is kept open, and undue temptation thrown in the way of young men to go there and lose money, and he knows what that leads to, then he would be right to say what he knows.

Mr. Drummond—But he has no right to say anything more than any other member of the community.

His Worship—That is so, and if he was actuated by any malicious motive, then I should be disposed to deal with the thing severely, but I do not think so. There is no evidence that he ever had any acquaintance with any of the members, or had ever been in the Club, or knew anything about it, and I am entitled to take for granted that his object was a lawful one. Therefore it comes to this, that he has said more than he has been able to justify, and so I must find him technically guilty. But I do not propose to inflict a heavy fine—I will not make it absolutely nominal—but I will make it a fine of \$10, and no costs.

Mr. O'Shea applied to his Worship to state a case upon the point raised by Mr. Stokes, as to whether the names of the prosecutors should not have been disclosed—and upon the point he himself had raised as to his not being the right party to proceed against.

His Worship, after some discussion, said he would state a case.

Whilst the parties were gathering up their papers, and the Court was being cleared, Mr. Drummond addressing Mr. O'Shea said "Now you have had the satisfaction of being convicted criminally."

Mr. O'Shea (to his Worship)—I should like to know whether Mr. Drummond has the right to speak to me and say "Now you have had the pleasure of being a convicted criminal." If Mr. Drummond used that expression outside I would reply to him very quickly.

His Worship said he had not heard the remark, and the parties left the Court.

"OH, DON'T TOUCH ME! DON'T COME NEAR ME!"

These words were uttered with a howl—almost a yell. Yet the boy to whom they were addressed wasn't within ten feet of the howler, and wouldn't have come closer for his life. The scene was a big business office in New York, and the howler was the chief man in it. He owned the concern, and was very rich, and a decent fellow enough. But sometimes he would break out like that, and howl as though he had just discovered a fire in a powder mill. You could hear him from the basement to the roof. What was the matter with him? Temporary insanity? Not quite,

but something nearly as bad. He had an acute attack of gout in his toe, and at those solemn crises he couldn't bear the sight of even a shadow moving in his direction. Ask somebody who has the gout how it feels. Fancy a blacksmith twisting your toe with hot pincers while a shoemaker is thrusting a Bradawl through your kneejoint. That's a little like it.

Well, there are things not so bad as gout, yet they make us touchy enough. Here comes a man, for instance, who says, "Everything now was a trouble to me." What should he talk that way for? Why should everything have been a trouble to him? There is an old saying that while we can't keep the crows from flying, we needn't let them make nests in our hair. That's good sense. But it's easy to give advice and to quote proverbs. How does a person act who suffers from boils?

Now, the fountain of all feeling and pain is the nerves. An hour or two of toothache is a lesson on the nervous system. But there are diseases (or one disease anyhow) in which all the nerves in the body seem to tingle to every sight and sound. The mind is on the look-out for evil—the man is depressed and afraid. Every word means mischief, and every bush hides an enemy. So he thinks. He knows what Solomon meant when he said, "The grasshopper is a burden."

Mr. Michael McCormack is a railway messenger and lives in Mullingar, County Westmeath, Ireland. In June, 1890, he was taken ill. His mouth tasted foul and coppery, his stomach was sour and dead, and when he forced down a little food he felt so much distress and pain after it that he was sorry he hadn't let it alone and gone hungry. Besides this there were pains wandering through his chest, back, and sides, hurting him, biting here and there like ugly dogs loose in a town. His head swam with dizziness and he couldn't go to his work. All his ambition and energy were gone out of him, and he would scarcely have exerted himself even if he had been suddenly promoted from the position of messenger to that of station-master of the biggest station on this railway.

"After a while," he goes on to say, "a dull heavy pain struck me in the back, so I couldn't stoop over. What I suffered from this and the other things put together, I have no words to describe. I had six months of it, and it was like six years. In such a case a man takes medicines; all he is told about. This I did, without getting any good from them, and I got weaker and weaker. Everything was a trouble to me; I couldn't bear things I used to think nothing of.

"In December, 1890, just before Christmas it was, I first heard of Mother Seigel's Syrup and what it had done in cases like mine. I got a bottle from Mr. Rogers' Drug Stores, and before I had used all of it I felt wonderfully better; and by keeping on with it a short time every pain and ache went out of me, and I was able to go about my work as well as ever I was in my life." These facts are vouched for by H. Rogers, Esq., Town Commissioner, Mullingar.

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Per str. *Oxus*, for Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Francis, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Chapman, General and Mrs. Barnes, Mr. and Mrs. Naftaly, Messrs. Bryner, Fintnen, Hillebrandt, 6 Chinese and 1 Indian. For Saigon—1 Chinese. For Singapore—Mr. and Mrs. Shapiera, and 1 Indian. For Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. Harmon and 3 children, Miss Wight, Capt. Constolle, Ensign Laranza, Messrs. Loumyer, Butler, Craven, Garwood, and Kuster.

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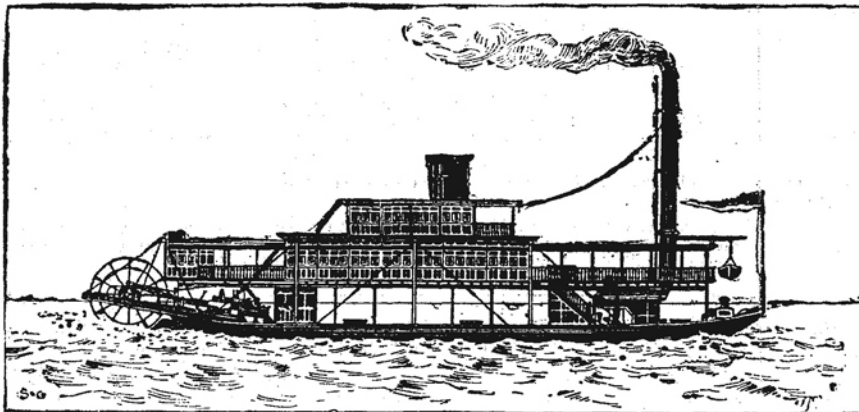
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8th May, 1892.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 1st December, 1892.

PIECE GOODS.—A fair amount of business has been passing in a quiet sort of way, neither sellers or buyers being particularly anxious to make it public however. There appears to be no unanimity of opinion amongst the former, things being done by one Importer that are perfectly inexplicable to others, making it very difficult to understand or describe the exact position of the market, and no doubt causing a certain amount of hesitancy on the part of the dealers. The latter, however, seem perfectly willing to go on, at only a slight advance, to any extent, but this the majority of Importers are not prepared to accede to and business is thus curtailed. Some sales have been made on a Cash basis, the Natives paying for them but commencing to store already in the Steamer godowns, not being required for this season. Of course the inducement of prompt Cash is sufficient to tempt most holders to sell at covering rates, although much below the cost of replacing, but forward sales on the same terms seems hardly good enough. As no doubt the bulk of the cargo to arrive after the close of the year will be on account of Natives, it is pretty certain that they will do their best to keep prices up, and only a decided advance in Exchange is likely to have an adverse effect on the market here.

NEWCHWANG has closed for the winter and it was thought that TIENTSIN would have followed ere this, the weather being so severe; it has become milder the last few days and steamers will be despatched from this, at all events up to the 4th instant, and there may possibly be one or two after that date. The River buyers are not showing much life but no doubt as soon as the Northern Ports are closed they will begin to display more activity as usual. It is said that the dealers here, finding the Hankow merchants to be very dilatory about taking delivery of their purchases heretofore, have established a new system with those gentlemen, only selling now for prompt delivery, and they have not quite got used to it yet!

Although the public telegrams received this week make the MANCHESTER market, and Cotton, slightly weaker, this has received no confirmation by the private advices as yet, which report the market firm but quiet, business being restricted by the high prices asked.

The demand for Indian Yarn is sending prices up still, quite an important advance being recorded this week with supplies keeping within very moderate bounds.

Grey Shirtings.—8-4-lbs.—Sales of over 30,000 pieces have been reported this week, part of them for "Cash," the following being some of the quotations:—*Red & Lion and Flag* Tls. 1.52½, *Silver Sycee* Tls. 1.57½, *Blue Joss* Tls. 1.67½, *Coltic Lion* Tls. 1.68 (to arrive), *Two Kangaroo* and *Two Pigeons* Tls. 1.70, *Deinhurst Eagle* Tls. 1.89 and *ditto XX* Tls. 1.91, (both to arrive). The market is very strong and holders are gradually getting prices up. The auction sales have again gone in favor of the sellers.

Light Weights.—A private sale of 1,000 pieces *Messenger* 5-lbs. is mentioned at Tls. 0.83. At auction this weight has further advanced one candareen, and 7-lbs. are also higher.

Heavy Weights.—A fair number of transactions are reported here also, amounting in all to over 30,000 pieces, as follows:—*Sheen and Ball* Tls. 1.90, *Black Soldier and Red Buffalo* Tls. 1.95, *Red Dog* Tls. 1.97, *Eight Loh* Tls. 2.15, *Silver Plate* Tls. 2.19, and *Rabbit and Moon* Tls. 2.25 net. The greater part of these are "too arrive," the balance for "Cash." The market is firm and advancing. The auction sales, which have been very light, show an improvement of 2 to 4 candareens.

12-lbs. 36 inch.—There has been renewed activity in these makes, sales of about 27,000 pieces being published, part of them, however, are re-sales. The following quotations are given:—*Two Soldier* Tls. 2.30, *Two Stork* Tls. 2.42½, *Two Boys and Silver Plate* Tls. 2.50, *Man and Stork* Tls. 2.55, and *Blue Soldier* Tls. 2.65, while a small parcel of 500 pieces 13-lbs. 39 inch goods realised Tls. 2.75. The few at auction are steadily advancing.

White Shirts.—64-reed.—Sales of 15,000 pieces are mentioned, to arrive, namely: *Blue and Gold Dog* \$1.77½, *Red and Gold Dog* \$1.80, and *Blue Stag* \$1.90. In the higher grades the only private transaction reported is a *Dragon* chop at \$2.70. At the public sale this morning prices show a further advance of from 3 to 4 candareens.

T-Cloths.—7lbs.—Only two sales are reported, namely *Silver Pagoda* at Tls. 1.03, net, and *Lion* at Tls. 1.14. Prices are gradually improving at auction but not so rapidly as Shirts.

Jeans.—English.—The market is very firm and resales of 8,000 pieces are published, viz., *Koong-bing Beaver* No. 1 at Tls. 2.00 and *Koong-bing Beaver* No. 2 at Tls. 1.92½.

Drills.—English.—The only sales that have appeared this week are 1,500 pieces each *Beaver* and *Crocodile* at Tls. 2.70, holders asking still higher prices now. Stocks are very small and Importers want a considerable advance for arrival.

American.—No transactions have taken place from first hands, but it is said that resales of part of the *Pepperells*, bought for arrival a short time back, have been made at Tls. 2.78 net.

Sheetings.—English.—Business this week, so far as reported, amounts to 12,000 pieces bought for cash, but they are evidently not wanted for immediate consumption as they have been stored in the steamer godowns, the quotations are: *Dragon* Tls. 2.25, *Bull* Tls. 2.30 and *Stag* Tls. 2.32½. The market is firm at these prices, but the dealers will not pay up for arrival cargo.

American.—A sale is reported of 13,000 pieces *Buck's Head* at Tls. 2.70, but it seems doubtful whether this is a re-purchase by the Importer or a resale amongst the natives. It is said that holders are making overtures to sell *Indian Head* and *Appleton* at easier rates for "Cash" but have not come to terms yet.

Cotton Yarn.—English.—There is still nothing reported in these Spinnings.

Indian.—The market is increasing in strength, and most of the Spinnings are one to two taels higher this week and very strong, holders seeming to get any price they like to ask, although the stock has been increased slightly. Sales amount to 2,332 bales at the following quotations:—

No. 10s., 561 bales.—*Coimbatore* Tls. 50, *Magazon* Tls. 50½, *Wadia* and *Jam Manufacturing* Tls. 51, *China Mill* Tls. 51½, *Lakmidass* and *Anglo India Mule* Tls. 51½, *New Empress* Tls. 52, *Imperial* Tls. 52½, *Framjee Petit* Tls. 52½, *Tea Carrier* Tls. 52½/53, *Connaught* and *Howard* Tls. 53.

No. 12s., 30 bales.—*National new chop* Tls. 51½, *Union* Tls. 53½/53½.

No. 16s., 758 bales.—*Hongkong Mill* Tls. 53, *Ripon Mule* Tls. 53½, *Anglo Indian Mule* Tls. 53½/54, *Seven Moon chop*, *Gitar* and *Scadeshi* Tls. 54, *Oriental Colaba* Tls. 54½, *E. D. Sassoon's Dragon* and *Bombay Cotton* Tls. 55, *Currimbhoy* Tls. 55½/55½, *Framjee Petit* Tls. 55½/56.

No. 20s., 983 bales.—*Anglo Indian* Tls. 54, *Wadia* Tls. 54½/54½, *City of Bombay*, *Lakmidass* and *Mahaluzsmi* Tls. 54½, *Dhru Mill* Tls. 54½/55, *Vithaldas* Tls. 54½/55½, *Scadeshi*, *Framjee Petit*, *Mill Ticket* and *Goldendass* Tls. 55, *Jubilee*, *Ring* Tls. 55½, *Currimbhoy* Tls. 55½/55½, *Jamshed Mule* Tls. 55½, *Tea Carrier* Tls. 56, *Connaught* Tls. 56½, *Motilall* Tls. 56½ and *Imperial* Tls. 56½/57.

The s.s. *Formosa* brought on 4,145 bales and the s.s. *Sutlej* 1,694 bales to this market.

Fancy Goods.—A small miscellaneous business has been done on a Cash basis, but all particulars are withheld. Better prices have been offered for *Velvets*, but have met with no response.

Woolens.—There is not much change to note in the position of the market for these goods, the prices realised at auction being fairly steady on the whole, though slightly irregular here and there. *Camlets* and *Long Ells* were offered in rather increased quantities, which would account for any little weakness they displayed, other descriptions showing very little change.

Metals and Miscellaneous.—From Alex. Belfield's Report of 2nd December:—My last report was dated the 25th of November. There is a little improvement in offers since, and values show more upward inclination. Natives seem now to realise that any favourable movement in Exchange is unlikely. It remains either for the Manufacturers to modify their ideas, or what is highly improbable for Natives to greatly raise their limits. The news that the endeavours of the British Government to induce the Japanese to join the International Union for the Protection of Industry Property, in re "Trade Marks" have been unsuccessful has been received here with much regret. There is no doubt that the spurious imitations of English and other manufacture do a great harm and permit the Japanese an unfair advantage over other countries; at the same time, however, it would be as well for the European Manufacturers to lay themselves out more to suit their goods to the markets they intend them for.

Transactions during the week have been exceedingly small. Natives have been busy shipping goods to Tientsin, whence the last batch of Steamers for the season left during the last few days. Business with the North may now be considered closed.

METALS.—There has been nothing in LEAD, the demand for forward Cargo has subsided, and inquires for "spot" are but of a jobbing character. Values of NAILROD have again strengthened, stocks of Staffordshire and Scotch are estimated 500 tons; Sohiers 1,250 tons. OLD IRON.—Stocks are reported to be:—2,600 tons Horse-shoes; 700 tons Boiler Plates; 200 tons Boiler Tubes; 150 tons Wire Rope; 600 tons Bale Hoops; 100 tons Iron Chains; 250 tons Railway Spokes and Spikes; 350 tons Fire Bars; 600 tons Cart Tyres; 250 tons Cable and Telegraph Wire; 2,700 tons Scrap Iron. IRON WIRE.—Has met with some attention, but I have not heard of any settlements. Further purchases and shipments of SPUETTER for Corea are reported. STRAITS TIN is selling freely at quotations.

MISCELLANEOUS GOODS.—Have been quite neglected since my last writing, and though prices in many instances are better, no transactions of any importance have been recorded. Sales reported are:—25 cases Between, 2/0, 3/0, 1/0, 1/8, 1/10 at Tls. 24, 60 cases Between, 1/5, Phoenix Silver at Tls. 70, 25 cases Deep-cut Buttons, No. 2/4 at Tls. 45, 20 cases Berlin Wool, 14 oz. at Tls. 57, 3,500 tins, ea. 8 oz., Scarlet, 2 Boys at Tls. 0.20½, 5,000 tins, ea. 8 oz., Crystal Green at Tls. 0.20.

Stocks in the small lines are very limited, but the market is well supplied with Matches, Soap, Needles, Dyes and Colours, Buttons, Candles, Handkerchiefs, Towels and Llama Braid.

Kerosene Oil.—There is moderate business doing at last mail's rates. Re-Export during November foots up to 242,668 cases.

Opium.—Closing quotations:—Malwa (new) Tls. 380/385, (old) 390/405.

EXPORTS.

Silk.—From Messrs. Cromie and Burkill's Circular of 1st December:—The London Silk market is quoted "Dull" under date 30th ultimo with Blue Elephants at 12/6, and Gold Kilin 10/3.

RAW SILK.—The position of this market has altered in no wise during the week. For Europe there is no demand whatever, and the only transactions of note are in Coarse, and Yellow Silks for Asiatic markets.

TRATLEES.—No transactions.

HANGCHOW TSATLEES.—No transactions.

TAYSAMS.—About 100 bales have been booked at quotations.

YELLOW SILKS.—250 bales have been bought at rather easier rates. These Silks are weakly held, especially the finer kinds.

Arrivals as per Customs Returns, November 24th to 30th inclusive, 800 bales White and 400 bales Yellow and Wild Silks.

RE-REELS AND FILATURES.—A quotation of Tls. 310 for No. 4 market Re-reels has been established by the settlement of 10 bales.

WILD SILKS.—New season's No. 1 has been bought at Tls. 145 to extent of about 100 bales.

WASTE SILKS.—About 300 piculs Honan No. 1 have been settled at Tls. 72½ to 69, according to quality.

SHANTUNG PONGEES.—Some 22 to 23 oz. goods have been bought at Tls. 2.60.

Purchases include:—TAYSAMS, 9/12 Moss Gold Eagle S.S.S.S. at Tls. 207½. CHINCOMS.—Tiger Extra No. 1 at Tls. 292½.

SKEINS.—Green Monster at Tls. 217½, Red Monster at Tls. 205, White Stork at Tls. 207½, Blue Bat No. 2 at Tls. 192½, Red Lion at Tls. 200. **YELLOW SILK.**—Tungloh at Tls. 262½, Meeyang at Tls. 225, Fooyung at Tls. 200 a 201½, Wongchow at Tls. 185, Szechong at Tls. 170 a 172½. **WILD SILK.**—Tussah Raw No. 1 at Tls. 145. **RE-REELS.**—Gold Lion at Tls. 310.

	1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.	1887-88.
Settlements for this mail + ... about	500	2,700	1,000	1,000	1,500	1,750 bales.
" for the season + ...	49,500	42,000	33,000	46,500	31,000	33,500 "
Stocks.....	13,000	13,000	14,000	13,000	9,500	13,500 "
Total Arrivals.....	62,500	55,000	47,000	59,500	40,500	47,000 "

† Exclusive of purchases for re-sale on this Market and forward contracts: § Including old Silk.

* Many shipments are now sent optional, Marseilles or London.
Also 146 piculs Old Silk Wadding to London.

"	317	"	"	"	Continent.
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Settlements are :—

GREEN TEAS.—Pingsueys.—No business reported.

Settlements reported are :—Moyunes 1,491 $\frac{1}{2}$ -chests at Tls. 21/27. Tienkais 3,669 $\frac{1}{2}$ -chests at Tls. 20/33 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Total settlements from commencement of season to

Pingsueys 129,695 ½-chests against 152,559 ½-chests in previous season.

Country Teas and Local packed	162,599
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Total.....	292,294	"	"	312,555	"
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EXPORT OF TEA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

EXPORT OF TEA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.EXPORT OF TEA TO BOMBAY.

* Including the cargo of the *Bokhara* 250,616 lbs. lost.

DAILY QUOTATIONS.

(From Messrs. Morriss & Fergusson's Circular.)

AUCTION SALES.

Auctions for the week ending 1st December, 1892, comprised the following Goods:—

PIECE GOODS.

At Nie-kee, 26th ult.—

White Shirtings.—50 pieces: *Blue Cock* \$1.41 1/2.

Dice Checks.—Assorted—40 pieces; Woman £2.22.

Turkey Red.—699 pieces; **Gold Tiger** 70.79 $\frac{1}{2}$; **Phenix** 70.89; **Dragon and King** 71.03 $\frac{1}{2}$; **Green Fish Man** 2-lbs. 70.98 $\frac{1}{2}$; do, 23-lbs. 71.10 $\frac{1}{2}$; **Blue** do. 2-lbs. 70.95; do. 23-lbs. 71.16; **Mandarin** 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lbs. 71.29 $\frac{1}{2}$; do. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lbs. 71.98.

At Ta-koo, 29th ult.—

Grey Shirtings.—7-lbs.—350 pieces; Steamer \$1.22½/22½.

8.4-lbs.—1,200 pieces; Blue Eagle \$1.22½/22½, Man and Horse \$1.38½/38½, Steamer \$1.47, Blue Dragon \$1.59½.

10-lbs.—100 pieces; Blue Dragon \$1.98.

11-lbs.—200 pieces; Steamer \$2.03½, Blue Dragon \$2.34½.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—800 pieces; Blue Eagle \$1.00, Man and Horse \$1.16½, Steamer \$1.32, Silver Dragon \$1.41½.

7.4-lbs.—225 pieces; Gold No. 3 \$1.49½, do. No. 2 \$1.59, do. No. 1 \$1.63½.

8-lbs.—360 pieces; Man and Horse \$1.37½, Steamer \$1.53, Silver Dragon \$1.68½.

8.4-lbs.—180 pieces; Gold No. 3 \$1.72½, do. No. 2 \$1.80½, do. No. 1 \$1.89.

At E-wo, 30th ult.—

Grey Shirtings.—8.4-lbs.—1,620 pieces; Blue Crab \$1.52/52½, Blue Tea Caddy DDD \$1.79½/80, Blue Eagle YYY \$1.81½/81½, Blue 3 Tea Caddy \$1.88½/88½.

10-lbs.—750 pieces; Red Crab \$1.93, Blue Crab \$1.98½, Blue Tea Caddy DDD \$2.18½.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—350 pieces; Red Tea Caddy \$1.21/21½.**Sheetings.**—14-lbs.—100 pieces; Blue Bell \$2.35½/36.

At Yuen-fong, 1st instant—

Grey Shirtings.—6-lbs.—200 pieces; Lotus \$0.90½/90½. 7-lbs.—675 pieces; Blue Britannia \$1.25½, Blue 4 Sister \$1.38½, Blue 3-Students \$1.48½.

8.4-lbs.—1,670 pieces; Two Man \$1.37½/37½, House \$1.39, Blue Britannia \$1.45½, Blue 4 Sisters \$1.50, Blue Double Shield \$1.50½/50½, Blue 3 Students \$1.51½, Red 3 Students \$1.60½, Red Saint Child \$1.59½, Blue Fish Man \$1.69½, Five Brothers \$1.79/80.

10-lbs.—200 pieces; Red Emperor's Birthday \$2.00½.

12-lbs.—240 pieces; Nine Lion \$2.17½ and Soldier \$2.27½.

White Shirtings.—64-reed, 800 pieces; House bright \$1.53½/54, do dull \$1.52½, Blue Double Lighthouse bright, \$1.54½, dull \$1.54½.

72-reed.—1,150 pieces; Red 2 Sister \$1.95, Red Double Lighthouse bright \$1.97½, do. dull \$1.98½/99½, Red Gold Star bright \$2.29, dull \$2.29½/29½ and Red 5 Star Bright \$2.32½, do. dull \$2.34.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—520 pieces; Blue 3 Students \$1.00½, Blue Lion \$1.20½, Red Double Shield \$1.21½, Red Dog \$1.21½, Red 3 Students \$1.33.

8-lbs.—250 pieces; Blue Lion \$1.41½, Painted 3-Students \$1.78½.

Sheetings.—English.—14-lbs.—100 pieces; Nine Lion \$2.38, Lion-on-Cloud \$2.38½.

15-lbs.—60 pieces; Old Man Head \$2.41½.

AUCTION SALES OF WOOLLENS DURING THE WEEK.

Chops -	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Dk. Gentian.	Green, and S. Green.	Orange and Yellow.	Ash Lav.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown & Mag.	Mauve.	Lt. Gt. Mid.	Sales Pos.
Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	
Camlets.													
Lighthouse, S.S.G. p. p.	10.60/75	10.45	10.82½/85	10.90	10.85/87½	...	...	...	10.52½	...	10.27½	10.67½	
Sales, pos.	120	40	80	10*	20	...	...	...	10	...	10	10*	300
Ship, G.G.M. p. p.	10.90	10.50	10.90	10.90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pos.	20	10	10	10*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Old Man, S.S.H. p. p.	10.27½/30	9.80/85	10.70/72½	...	10.20	...	...	...	10.10	...	9.77½/82½	10.07½	
Sales, pos.	120	60	60	...	10	...	...	...	10	...	20	20*	300
Goose, p. p. C.P.H.	10.00/02½	...	10.53	9.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.73	...	
Sales, pos.	60	...	20	10*	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	100
Man & Horse, p. p.	9.96	...	10.59	10.00	9.84/88	...	...	...	...	...	9.72	...	
Sales, pos.	50	...	10	10*	20	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	100
Bear, p. p.	900	...	9.21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.83	...	
Sales, pos.	30	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	50
Double Deer, p. p.	8.83/35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pos.	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Fish, P.P.P. p. p.	10.08/11	9.85/86	10.58/60	9.92	9.17*	9.70	...	...	10.10	...	...	...	
Sales, pos.	60	40	30	20*	9.98	10*	...	...	10	...	...	...	200
Double Cock, p. p.	10.02½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pos.	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
3 Dogs, p. p.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.30	...	
Sales, pos.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	10
Long Ells.													
Lighthouse, G.G.L.	5.80/90	5.61	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pos.	80	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Horse Head, p. p.	5.48.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pos.	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Double Phoenix, p. p.	5.36	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pos.	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Tiger, C.P.H. p. p.	4.49/52	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pos.	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Buffalo H-ad, p. p.	5.20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pos.	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Lastings.													
Ship, G.G.H. p. p.	...	...	8.82½	...	...	...	...	...	8.95/97½	...	...	8.65	
Sales, pos.	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	260	...	...	20*	300
Old Man, p. p. F.F.R	...	...	8.22½	...	...	...	...	...	7.52½/55	...	...	...	
Sales, pos.	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	180	...	...	...	200
Tiger, C.P.H. p. p.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.95	...	...	...	
Sales, pos.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	...	...	...	40
Spanish Stripes.													
Britannia, T.T.B. p. yd.	0.49	0.13½	0.47	...	0.44½	0.49½	...	0.48	0.43½	...	...	0.47½/48	
Sales, pos.	60	12	6	...	6	6*	...	6	6	...	...	24	126
Elephant, p. yd.	0.45.1/45.4	...	0.45.9/46	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pos.	60	...	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
Single Phoenix, p. yd.	0.46.1/46.3	...	0.45.3/46.3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.45.6	
Sales, pos.	90	...	84	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6*	180
H.H., p. yd.	0.50	0.42½	0.53½	0.40½	0.43	...	...	...	...	...	0.50½	0.48½	
Sales, pos.	72	12	36	6*	6	...	...	...	...	...	6	6*	144
Dragon, H.G.H., p. yd.	0.46½	0.40½	0.47½	0.43½	...	...	...	...	0.38½	...	...	...	
Sales, pos.	12	6	6	6*	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	36
Sea Horse, B.T.F. p. yd.	0.45.55/45.6	...	0.44.95/45	0.42.8	...	0.45.4	0.44	...	...	0.49.6*	0.48.05	0.44.8/44.85	
Sales, pos.	60	...	36	6*	...	24	6	...	...	36	18	54*	210
Buffalo, p. yd.	0.44.15	0.35.9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pos.	12	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Pig Head, p. yd.	0.43.3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.43.95	
Sales, pos.	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6*	24

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 30th November, 1892, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 274 to 279, both numbers inclusive.

RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.

GOODS.	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Higo.	Yokohama.	Corea.	Local.	Sundries.
Grey Shirtings †	5,260	60	10,900	248	1,400	11,425	1,210	39,179	...	630	...	...	1150	...	2750	14,000	450
T-Cloths, 32-in.	595	385	500	170	60	1,170	2,375	3,570	...	4,140	...	...	...	...	...	3,800	625
36-in.	820	...	50	...	150	...	250	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,300	...
White Shirtings	1,511	300	1,900	100	249	5,587	250	9,958	...	80	2,650	...	...	...	...	4,500	340
Drills, English & Dutch	30	150	885	30	...	510	155	3,045	...	15	...	...	75	...	45	210	1,500
American	235	...	300	60	...	375	75	3,900	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	180	...
Jeans, English & Dutch	190	...	20	...	...	270	...	1,670	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	220
American	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sheetings, English	180	...	360	120	410	400	...	830	...	...	100	...	...	...	...	480	400
American	360	...	...	...	...	...	1,340	7,980	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...
Dyed Shirtings	...	...	450	310	...	903	...	230	...	70	150	...	...	...	...	160	...
Brocades & Sp. S'tings, Wh.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed	...	...	...	...	50	160	...	680	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	...
Chintzes	...	...	50	...	...	150	50	740	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	300	...
Printed T-Cloths	110	...	240	...	50	2,249	268	1,703	60	187	...	...	...	...	...	450	...
Printed Twills	144	...	...	...	...	480	...	1,139	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	360	...
Turkey Red Shirtings	275	40	450	150	209	855	250	1,500	...	600	500	...	...	...	100	250	250
Velvets	60	...	...	90	30	30	...	72	...	90	...	...	...	...	...	60	...
Velveteens	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...
Handkerchiefs	200	...	400	1,403	600	800	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,500	...
Muslins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	350	...
Lenos & Balzarines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	...
Cotton Yarn, Indian	387	12	2,499	687	708	4,947	132	3,696	822	...	...	...	6	...	...	250	...
English	...	...	...	3	9	84	6	39	57	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...
Spanish Stripes, Woollen	54	12	84	42	24	30	42	258	36	12	30	...	...	...	6	90	...
Cotton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	168	...	24	...	...	...	...	...	100	...
Medium and Broad Cloths	6	6	12	12	...	138	...	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70	...
Camlets	20	30	50	40	50	840	...	130	...	140	50	...	...	...	...	130	...
Long Ells	20	20	40	105	80	485	25	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120	...
Lastings	...	20	20	...	60	1,229	20	510	20	20	40	...	...	...	20	240	30
Italian Cloth	60	...	90	180	...	488	31	420	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	160	40
Cotton Lastings & Italians	330	80	770	30	160	2,222	440	4,236	100	60	58	...	80	...	...	700	30
Lustres, Plain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Figured Orleans	...	...	...	...	...	130	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	240	...
Cotton Flannels	380	20	700	240	40	829	40	160	10	100	...	...	30	...	...	600	100
Lead in Pigs	366	...	131	...	1,256	599	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron-Nail Rod	...	...	1,176	122	25	672	903	462	294	50	...	...	21	...	...	...	...
Kerosine Oil, American	...	...	2,000	200	2,553	...	14,500	6,700	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Russian	...	...	500	...	...	...	...	5,300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

TOTAL DELIVERIES.

TOTAL IMPORTS.

STOCKS AT DATE ARE BASED
ON THE CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE RETURNS,
ON 30TH JUNE, 1892.

GOODS.	As above.	For the Year from 1st Jan., 1892.	Against last year to same term.	For the week.	For the year from 1st Jan. 1892.	Against last year to same term.	At date Estimated.	Against 1st December, 1891.
Grey Shirtings †	88,662	5,787,144	5,431,747	87,625	5,701,921	5,122,485	1,255,263	1,365,852
T-Cloths, 32-in.	17,390	1,269,593	1,249,240	22,032	1,322,124	1,160,219	289,768	234,270
36-in.	3,570	272,688	293,813	6,462	305,058	306,940	89,272	28,181
White Shirtings	27,425	1,817,361	1,815,195	17,445	1,549,540	1,909,802	379,378	522,347
Drills, English & Dutch	6,650	252,885	299,582	5,040	171,090	306,904	8,206	103,019
American	5,125	628,007	763,206	...	563,012	865,340	4,534	120,449
Jeans, English & Dutch	2,570	153,507	147,239	...	129,176	165,061	38,672	66,062
American	...	16,870	23,895	...	18,000	16,500	2,970	1,865
Sheetings, English	3,280	723,719	746,473	2,825	676,998	859,536	141,639	257,270
American	9,880	1,503,094	1,585,257	42,800	1,369,810	1,490,445	201,490	318,678
Dyed Shirtings	2,273	244,578	180,351	2,864	221,877	144,351	29,523	13,508
Brocades & Sp. S'tings, Wh.	...	1,962	2,765	...	2,524	2,314	562	1,826
Dyed	1,040	35,092	34,181	979	23,796	28,699	?	4,133
Chintzes	1,290	54,804	59,866	540	69,151	61,509	26,930	15,465
Printed T-Cloths	5,307	463,954	378,680	7,258	506,974	390,464	241,284	210,493
Printed Twills	2,183	128,895	110,235	6,285	170,143	72,663	47,707	22,457
Turkey Red Shirtings	5,420	426,426	415,724	691	334,600	683,811	292,468	310,069
Velvets	432	37,630	33,679	672	37,761	26,858	5,858	1,686
Velveteens	60	12,634	11,246	516	9,809	9,472	899	1,455
Handkerchiefs	7,103	398,581	338,701	11,249	529,552	331,228	201,379	134,163
Muslins	350	181,932	213,380	15,416	216,897	245,512	56,874	52,214
Lenos & Balzarines	150	94,635	67,058	...	81,670	69,504	16,588	25,869
Cotton Yarn, Indian	14,146	705,983	489,254	11,229	640,670	551,876	44,013	128,212
English	300	32,925	39,164	...	15,947	34,873	5,801	20,967
Spanish Stripes, Woollen	714	36,502	38,485	816	44,988	41,832	6,059	6,910
Cotton	292	27,150	17,687	...	23,233	11,408	...	?
Medium and Broad Cloths	284	24,546	20,129	...	33,972	19,152	13,952	8,315
Camlets	1,480	78,649	85,924	210	57,099	80,708	5,237	14,677
Long Ells	955	72,329	79,712	820	67,260	80,202	4,690	16,175
Lastings	2,229	119,240	169,730	1,350	108,684	...	6,521	38,773
Italian Cloth	1,529	79,063	562,653	898	68,837	189,402	8,846	...
Cotton Lastings & Italians	9,296	559,643	...	13,807	637,551	542,597	214,847	156,204
Lustres, Plain	...	2,460	3,655	...	1,098	750	...	?
Figured Orleans	370	22,361	22,303	...	10,369	11,155	2,540	4,594
Cotton Flannels	3,249	69,534	44,909	14,854	62,196	79,106	44,256	59,216
Lead in Pigs	2,351	83,550	86,716	3,363	104,378	70,161	30,804	20,077
Iron-Nail Rod	3,725	190,924	190,950	9,124	186,491	332,744	102,483	161,121
Kerosine Oil, American	25,953	1,128,501	1,415,775	1,817	1,666,875	2,324,657	796,712	675,546
Russian	5,800	372,900	668,709	...	309,515	704,154	8,187	213,881

† Including English and Dutch 12-lbs.

* Exclusive of undeclared Import Cargoes per Titan, Salazie, Pakling, Flintshire, Formosa, Sulej, Glenorchy and Darmstadt.

Import Cargoes declared during interval: Ganges, Glenshiel, Diomed, and additional ex Oanfa, Brindisi, Priam, and Bombay, and In Bond ex Empress of India and Titan.

† From the daily returns from the Wharves.

SHARES.

SHANGHAI, 2nd December, 1892.

BANKS.—*Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.*—We have no change to report in this stock. The London rate is £36.10, 0 *Bank of China.*—Business has been done in Ordinary shares at Tls. 1.50 and 1.75, and in Founders' shares at £19 and exchange 3/10.

SHIPPING.—*Shanghai Tug Boat* shares have been placed at Tls. 100.

DOCKS.—Shares in *S. C. Farnham & Co.* have been sold at Tls. 110.

MARINE INSURANCE.—*Canton Insurance* shares have changed hands at \$105.

FIRE INSURANCE.—*Hongkongs* have been parted with at \$250. *Straits Fires* have been sold at \$16.50.

MINING.—*Inuris Mines* shares have been placed at \$3.00. *Belmonts* are offering at Tls. 5.

MISCELLANEOUS.—*Shanghai Waterworks* shared have declined to Tls. 162.50, at which rate business was done. *Perak Sugar Cultivation* shares were sold at Tls. 10. They are now wanted at higher rates. *Shanghai Land Investment* shares were placed at Tls. 27.50, and are obtainable at the same rate. *Shanghai-Lankat Tobacco* shares were sold at Tls. 70 and 65.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATION.				
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When paid or due.	Closing.	Taels.			
<i>Banks.</i>													
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co	80,000	\$125	\$125	\$3,300,000.00	\$70,807.90	30 June 92	*£1	22 Aug 92	116½ pm.	197.55			
Bank of China, Jap. & Straits, Ltd.	199,875	£10	£1	£223,629.13.7	£3,020.16.9	31 Dec 91	+0.49	4 Mar 92	...	1.75			
Do. Founders'	1,250	£1½	£1½	.....	.....	.....	+£35.23	14 Feb 91	£19.0.0	99.13			
National Bank of China, Ltd. A	19,970	£10	£7	\$2,052.53	.....	30 June 92	None.	.....	.....	23.41			
Do. B	29,955	£10	£7		.....			.....	\$32.07				
Do. Founders'	750	£1	£1		.....			.....	\$200	146.00			
<i>Shipping.</i>													
Shanghai Tug Boat Co., Ltd. ...	1,000	£100	£100	\$3,000	\$1,045.67	31 Dec 91	*£2	10 Oct 92	.....	100.00			
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co. ...	49,589	£10	£10	\$40,000.00	\$2,437.1.1	31 Dec 91	+2½%	7 July 92	...	21.00			
Shanghai Shipping Co.	150	£1,000	£1,000	.....	\$566.77	30 June 92	*3%	1 Mar 92	.....	500.00			
Ch. Mutual S.N. Co. pref. shares	20,000	£10	£10	\$85,000.00	\$2,384.17.5	31 Dec 90	*3%	5 Nov 92	{	{			
Do. ord. do.	10,000	£10	£5								£7.0.0		
Do. do. do.	10,000	£10	£3½								£4.0.0		
Taku Tug and Lighter Co., Ltd.	8,600	T.£50	T.£50	\$24,000.00	\$20,054.71	31 Dec 91	*3½%	15 July 92	T.£58.00	60.61			
H'kong, C'ton & M'cao S.B. Co.	80,000	\$20	\$20	\$619,000.00	\$5,257.46	30 June 92	*4%	29 July 92	\$30.00	21.90			
<i>Docks.</i>													
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	£500	£500	\$20,000.00	\$395.45	30 June 92	*£12	4 July 92	.....	420.00			
Byrd & Co., Ltd., Founders'	200	£100	£100	\$41,000.00	\$5,302.57	.....	+£12	28 June 92	{	{			
Byrd & Co., Ltd.	7,800	£100	£100										140.00
S. C. Farnham & Co., Ltd.	7,500	£100	£100										110.00
<i>Insurance (Marine.)</i>													
China Traders' Ins. Co., Ltd.	24,000	\$83.33	\$25	\$750,000.00	\$237,185.68	30 April 92	+£4.50	19 Sept 92	\$55.00	40.15			
North-China Ins. Co., Ltd.	5,000	\$200	\$50	\$205,336.80	\$405,979.17	30 June 92	*£14.73	26 April 92	.....	240.00			
Union In. Society of Canton, Ltd.	10,000	\$250	\$25	\$842,000.00	\$422,392.37	30 June 92	+£7	12 Oct 92	\$83.00	60.59			
Yangtze Insurance Ass'n, Ltd.	6,948	\$100	\$100	\$340,000.00	\$64,555.65	31 Dec 91	+£8½	10 Mar 90	.....	80.00			
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$730,000.00	\$73,349.32	31 Dec 91	*\$3	22 Oct 92	\$105.00	76.65			
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.	30,000	\$100	\$20	\$35,000.00	\$364,722.32	31 Dec 91	+5%	15 July 92	\$13.00	9.85			
<i>Insurance (Fire.)</i>													
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Ltd.	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,060,000	\$308,333.00	31 Dec 91	+£18	15 Mar 92	\$250.00	182.50			
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$779,000.00	\$185,298.47	31 Dec 91	+£36	8 Mar 92	\$86.00	82.78			
Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$70,000.00	\$152,968.87	31 Dec 91	+5%	29 Mar 92	\$16.50	12.05			
Singapore Insurance Co., Ltd.	29,176	\$100	\$20	\$11,875.91	\$126,892.17	31 Dec 91	+£0.70	26 April 90	\$11.00	8.03			
<i>Wharves.</i>													
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co.	2,867	£100	£100	\$89,089.75	\$2,403.85	31 Dec 91	*£6.00	10 Aug 92	.....	276.00			
Birt's Wharf H. C. & W. C. Co.	2,100	£50	£50	\$10,000.00	.....	31 Oct 91	*3½%	29 Nov 91	.....	37.50			
H'kong & K'loon Wh. & G. Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$50	\$50	.....	\$15,459.84	31 Dec 91	*\$1.50	15 Aug 92	\$44.00	32.12			
<i>Mining.</i>													
Sheridan Con. M. & M. Co., Ltd.	20,000	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40.00			
Smuggler Union Mining Co.	50,000	G. \$100	G. \$100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	nominal.			
Selama Tin Mining Co., Ltd.	115,000	\$5	\$2	.....	.....	30 June 91	None.	.....	{	{			
Do. do.	25,000	\$5	\$5								\$0.15		
New Imuris Mines, Ltd.	200,000	£1	£0.17.6								\$1.00		
Belmont Consolidated Min. Co.	3,500	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	\$3.00	2.19			
<i>Cargo Boats.</i>													
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£200	£200	\$30,300.65	\$3,196.23	31 Dec 91	*4%	1 Aug 92	.....	212.50			
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£100	£100	\$8,000.00	\$1,730.29	31 Dec 91	+2½%	1 Aug 92	.....	71.50			
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>													
Shanghai Gas Co.	2,000	£100	£100	\$100,000.00	\$7,670.22	31 Dec 91	*6%	7 July 92	.....	215.00			
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	7,200	£20	£20	\$21,192.05	\$266.93	31 Dec 91	*3%	28 July 92	.....	162.50			
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co. Ltd	5,000	£50	£50	.....	\$7,810.42	30 June 92	None.	.....	.....	11.00			
Hall & Holtz Co-op'tive Co., Ltd.	6,000	£50	£50	.....	\$4,692.42	29 Feb 92	+£12	15 May 90	.....	8.00			
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	1,500	\$100	\$100	\$10,345.85	\$3,061.51	31 Dec 91	*85%	10 Mar 92	\$120.00	87.60			
New Shanghai Electric Co., Ltd.	477	£100	£100	.....	\$790.28	31 Dec 91	+£17	15 Mar 92	.....	91.00			
Sh. Land Investment Co., Ltd.	20,000	£50	£30	\$21,354.00	\$1,037.79	31 Dec 91	*2%	20 July 92	.....	27.50			
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ltd.	1,200	\$100	\$100	.....	\$552.12	31 Dec 91	*\$5	20 April 92	\$97.50	71.17			
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.	1,800	£50	£50	\$1,500.00	\$2,913.28	31 Dec 91	*£1.50	3 Nov 92	.....	46.50			
Major Brothers, Ltd.	6,000	£50	£50	.....	.....	.....	*£2.50	5 May 92	.....	49.00			
Y'hams Engin. & Iron Work, Ltd.	1,300	\$100	\$100	\$17,500.00	\$1,185.77	31 May 91	*6%	3 July 91	\$100.00	73.00			
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Co.	650	\$100	\$100	.....	\$147.40	31 Dec 91	None.	.....	\$200.00	146.00			
Do. do. new issue	650	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$130.00	94.90			
Shanghai-Lankat Tob. Co., Ltd.	1,590	£100	£70	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	.....	65.00			
Do. Founders'	10	£100	£70	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	.....	525.00			
L'Hôtel des Colonies, Ltd.	500	£50	£50	.....	.....	.....	*3%	26 April 92	.....	30.00			
Shanghai Ice Co	1,500	£50	£30	.....	.....	.....	*3%	26 April 92	.....	25.00			
A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd.	360	£100	£100	\$99.83	.....	31 Oct 91	5%	6 Jan 90	.....	120.00			
	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$175,000	\$15,538.47	31 Dec 91	7%	9 May 92	\$16.00	11.68			

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1883	\$45,000.00	\$25,000.00	£100	7%	Dec. & June.	nominal.
Do. 1884	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	£100	7%	Do.	Do.
Do. 1885	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	£100	7%	Do.	Do.
Do. 1888	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00	£100	6%	Do.	Do.
Do. 1890	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	£100	6%	Do.	Do.
Do. 1891	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	£100	5½%	Do.	£108.00
China Merchants' S.N. Co. Debentures.	\$300,000	\$102,000	£100	7%	Quarterly	£102(a)
Lyceum Theatre Debentures	\$17,000.00	\$17,000.00	£25	*4%	7 Jan'y. '92	£11.00
Chinese Imp. Government Loan 1886 E	\$767,200.00	\$716,800.00	£250	7%	Mar. & Sept.	(a) £285.00
Shanghai Land Invest. Co. Debentures.	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00	£100	6%	June & Dec.	(a) £100.00

* For half year; † For quarter year; ‡ For year; § A deficit; § Reserve for equalization of dividends. (a) Exclusive of accrued interest.

J. P. BISSET & Co.